MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

25 MARCH 81

Inter-Arab Affairs

Citing Sudanese Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak, SUNA reported that Sudan has proposed to the Arab League Council that Libya be expelled from the league. The report said Sudan objects to the presence of Soviet "bases" in Libya and indicated that the proposal is a riposte to a Libyan request that Sudan be expelled from the Arab League.

Meanwhile, the Democratic Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DPFLP) has called for Sudan's expulsion from the league. According to Damascus radio, a DPFLP statement said Sudan's resumption to full diplomatic relations with Egypt and its invitation to the United States to establish "airbases" and use Sudanese territory are violations of previous Arab League summit resolutions. An earlier report by the political editor of the Libyan news agency JANA had sharply criticized the recent decision on the exchange of Ambassadors between Sudan and Egypt, while KUNA, citing the Kuwaiti newspaper AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM, had reported that certain unspecified Arab countries would raise the issue of sanctions against Sudan during the Arab League Council meeting in Tunis this week.

Syria

Al-Asad Speech--Damascus radio and television carried live President Hafiz al-Asad's lengthy speech to the International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions conference on its 25th anniversary. In his remarks on Jordan, Al-Asad called on King Husayn to open up a front for Palestinian fedayeen action in accordance with a decision of the Arab summit. He said: "Let us open the Jordanian front for all kinds of Palestinian action, and there will be nothing between us to disagree on."

Disturbances in 'Alawite Areas--Amman radio reported that disturbances in Syria have now spread to 'Alawite areas, including Qardahah, the birthplace of President Hafiz al-Asad. The radio said there are 900 detainees in Latakia and Baniyas and also reported renewed acts of violence in Homs and Damascus.

Pakistan

Provisional Constitution--Karachi radio's overseas English service reported that President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has promulgated a provisional constitution order that provides for the appointment of vice presidents and the establishment of federal councils. When political activity is permitted, only those political parties registered with the election commission on 30 September 1979 will be entitled to function. New political parties can be formed only with the permission of the chief election commissioner, and the president is empowered to dissolve political parties that he deems to be operating against Islam or Pakistan. The president will also be able to amend the constitution and transfer high court judges. According to a related report by Karachi radio, the order forbids the high court to restrict government preventive detention powers.

Deportation of Mercenaries--The government has ordered the arrest and deportation of six Western nationals who came to Pakistan to fight in Afghanistan as mercenaries, Karachi radio reported.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

An Iraqi General Command communique, carried by INA, claimed successes near Panjwin and Sayf Sa'd and in the Gilan-e Gharb, Mehran and Shush regions. The Iranians lost 132 troops and 6 tanks, the report said. Tehran radio reported that Iraqi attacks on the western fronts were defeated and claimed that Iranian forces now control Iraqi border regions around Panjwin, Khurmal, Halabjah and the Darbandi Khan Dam. The radio also reported Iraqi air raids on Ilam and Eslamabad, mortar fire on Susangerd and a rocket attack on Ahvaz.

Kurdish Situation

The anti-Iraq Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan radio on 18 March broadcast an appeal from the Kurdistan regional committee of the Iraqi Communist Party calling on "Arabs, Kurds and other minorities" to unite to overthrow Iraq's "fascist dictatorship" and establish a "national democratic coalition" government that would give the Kurdish people true autonomy.

On the other hand, Iraqi media have stressed the support of Kurdish groups for President Saddam Husayn. INA reported on 20 March that in an interview with the newspaper ATH-THAWRAH, the secretary general of the Kurdish Revolutionary Party welcomed Saddam Husayn's declared support for "self-rule" for all the "Iranian peoples," emphasized the "cohesion" between the Arab and Kurdish people of Iraq and criticized Iran's treatment of its Kurdish population. On 21 March Baghdad radio broadcast the text of a New Year's cable of "congratulations" sent to President Husayn by the Political Bureau of the Democratic Party of Kurdistan. The cable praised the "glorious victories" of Iraq over the "racist Persians." According to a 22 March INA report, the president spent several days in Iraq's Kurdish area, where he visited a number of villages. He told the people of Zakhu district that the Iraqi People's Army now includes 35,000 Kurds.

A 19 March Tehran radio report alleged that Iraqi Kurds attacked the police station in As-Sulaymaniyah, killing the police chief and three policemen. On the same day the radio reported several clashes in Iran's Kurdish region between Iranian forces and "counterrevolutionaries" or "illegal armed groups."

FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Middle East and Africa

Vol V No 057 *25 March 1981*

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

Faruq Qaddumi Addresses Arab League Council [VOP] A 1
Klibi: Arab League To Discuss Mauritanian Issue A 1
PLO Official Addresses Palestinian Graduates [VOP] A 1
PNC Speaker Receives Salvadoran Communist Official [VOP] A 2

ARABIAN PENINSULA

KUWAIT

Minister Foresees No Reduction in Oil Output C 1
Text of Editorial Defending Egypt on Camp David [AS-SIYASAH 24 Mar] C 1
Some Arab Countries May Impose Sanctions on Sudan C 2

SAUDI ARABIA

Yasir 'Arafat Arrives 23 Mar, Holds Meeting C 3
Meeting With King Khalid C 3
British Defense Secretary Arrives for Talks C 3
Meeting With King Khalid C 3
Meeting With Defense Minister C 4

YAR

Yasir 'Arafat Meets With President Salih 23 Mar C 4
'Arafat Press Conference C 4
Further on Press Conference C 5
Departure Statement C 6

EGYPT

Butrus Ghali Interviewed on Foreign Policy D 1
'Ali Makes Statements During European Tour D 2
Statement in Switzerland D 2
Statements in Copenhagen D 2
Interview With Danish TV D 4
Agro-Industrial Complex Toured by As-Sadat D 5

IRAQ

Armed Forces General Command Communique 285 E 1
Industry Minister Confers With Turkish Minister E 1
Baghdad Calls on Iranians To Help Kurds Free Iran E 2
Kurdish Radio Reports 17 Feb Peshmerga Battle E 3
[Voice of Iraqi Revolution]

JORDAN

Premier, Army Commander To Accompany King to USSR F 1
First Installment of Saudi Aid for Occupied Lands F 1
[AR-RA'Y 24 Mar]
Palestinian Delegation to Committee Arrives [AR-AR'Y 25 Mar] F 1
Amman Views Syrian Disturbances, Regime's Nepotism F 1
Briefs: Ambassador to Maldives F 2

LEBANON

CSSR Reportedly Helps PFLP With Missile Base G 1
Prime Minister Al-Wazzan Visits Sidon 24 Mar G 1
24 Mar Speech G 1
Salvadoran Communist Official Visits Lebanon G 3
Political Meetings G 3
Beirut Rally Address G 3
Envoy Discusses UN Security Council Debate G 4
Haddad Delivers Speech on 'Good Fence' Anniversary G 5
Haddad on At-Tiri Incident, Al-Asad Speech G 6

SYRIA

U.S. Citizen From Hijacked Jet Held for Interpol H 1
Soviet Minister Arrives in Damascus 23 Mar H 1
Syrian, Soviet Health Officials Begin Talks 23 Mar H 1
Voice of Egypt Urges Sudanese To Confront Regime H 1

ISRAEL

Begin Reviews Issues at Committee Session I 1
Eytan Speaks on Southern Lebanon Situation I 1
DAVAR Reports Possibility of Arms Sales to U.S. I 2
[25 Mar]
Tzipori Comments on Golan Heights 'Incitement' I 3
[HA'ARETZ 24 Mar]
Armaments Authority Manufacturing Cluster Bombs I 3
New Underground Fuel Reservoir To Be Put to Use I 3
Knesset Committee Decides on Short May Session I 4
Alignment Poll Shows It Will Win 45 Seats I 4
[HA'OLAM HAZE 25 Mar]
POST Reports on Dayan's Intentions, Party I 4
17 Mar Report I 4
23 Mar Report I 5
Arab List To Run in 10th Knesset Elections I 6
PLO Steps Up Recruitment of Israeli Arabs I 6
[DAVAR 15 Mar]

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

President Bendjedid Meets With Soviet Envoy Q 1
Soviet Trade Union Delegation Visits Bechar Q 1
[EL MOUDJAHID 16 Mar]
APS Reports Mauritanian Plotters' Sentences Q 1

LIBYA

Arab League Called on To Expel Sudan Regime Q 2
Radio Reports Sudanese Opposition Statement Q 2

MAURITANIA

AFP Reports on Situation After Coup Attempt Q 2

MOROCCO

Mercenary Attack Said To Be From Mauritania Q 3

SUDAN

Mubarak Says Arab League Asked To Expel Libya Q 4

EAST AFRICA

ETHIOPIA

Eritrean Leader on Liberation Fronts' Differences R 1
[Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL 21 Mar]
Eritrean Radio Reports Ethiopian Sailors Jailed R 2
[Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea]

KENYA

President Moi, Aptidon Meet; Speak at Banquet R 3
23 Mar Talks R 3
State Banquet R 3
Minister Implicated in Moi Overthrow Plot R 4
Television Programs Exchanged With Ghana R 4

SOMALIA

Freedom Fighters Clash With Ethiopian Troops R 4
[Voice of Western Somalia and Abo Liberation Fronts]

TANZANIA

Government Reiterates Call for Fuel Conservation R 4

UGANDA

AFP Reports Explosions, Blackout in Kampala R 5
Army Officials Discuss Security Problems R 6
Nairobi Reports Army Confirmation of Ambush Deaths R 6
Obote Receives Message From FRG's Genscher R 6

CENTRAL AFRICA

CAMEROON

Yaounde Decries Possible U.S. Aid to UNITA, FNLA S 1

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Candidate Pehoua Cites Irregularities in Elections S 2
French Interference Charge S 2
Remarks to French Journalists S 2

CHAD

UN Mission Examines Areas of Possible Assistance S 3

ZAIRE

Reduction of Overseas Diplomatic Corps Planned S 3
Joint French Commission Meeting Results Noted S 4

WEST AFRICA

GHANA

Dailies Discuss Anti-Ivorian Student Protests T 1

IVORY COAST

Lawmaker To Assume Chair of Parliamentary Union T 1

LIBERIA

Geologists Arrested on Uranium Smuggling Charge T 1
Decree Establishes Court for Drug Traffickers T 2

MALI

Ghanaian President Arrives for Official Visit T 2
Communique on Joint Ghana Commission Meeting T 3

NIGERIA

Shagari Returns From UK, Views Thatcher Talks T 4
NEW NIGERIAN Comment T 4

SENEGAL

Opposition Party Deputy Submits Resignation T 4

TOGO

ECOWAS Defense Commission Begins Meeting in Lome T 5
President Eyadema Receives Mauritanian Envoy T 5

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

Talks, Accord With Cuba on Construction Projects [Havana] U 1
Brazilian Minister Signs Cooperation Accord U 1
Remarks on South Africa U 1
Program Details U 1
Press Release Cited on 1980 Fighting With Pretoria U 2

MADAGASCAR

President Launches 'Intensive Production Campaign' U 2
Briefs: New Envoys U 3

MOZAMBIQUE

Foreign Minister Notes Topics for Iberian Talks U 3

SOUTH AFRICA

Preferential Trade Agreement With Zimbabwe To End U 3

ZIMBABWE

Communique Issued Following Stevens' Visit U 4
Further Details U 4
Reconstruction Conference Opens in Salisbury 23 Mar U 5
Mugabe Opening Address U 5
Development Minister Speech U 6
Briefs: Acting Trade Minister U 6

FARUQ QADDUMI ADDRESSES ARAB LEAGUE COUNCIL

JN241756 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 20 Mar 81

[Text] The Arab League Council, which is meeting in Tunis at the level of Arab foreign ministers, resumed its meetings today.

Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the PLO Political Department, spoke during yesterday's session. He affirmed that the Palestinian people in the occupied territory are relentlessly continuing their daily struggle against the campaigns of annexation and expulsion and the establishment of Zionist settlements.

On the European stand on the Middle East issue, he said that the European states are aspiring for a European stand that is more progressive than the present stand. He added that Europe has to translate its statements into tangible facts.

KLIBI: ARAB LEAGUE TO DISCUSS MAURITANIAN ISSUE

LD231502 Tunis TAP in Arabic 1000 GMT 23 Mar 81

[Excerpts] Tunis, 23 Mar (TAP)--In a statement to LA PRESSE on the 36th anniversary of the Arab League, Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi spoke about the Arab League's role following the Camp David accords and also about Arab relations. In a statement published yesterday, Mr Klibi explained the danger to the solution of the Palestinian issue constituted by the Camp David accords which are in fact nothing but a means to destroy the Palestinian issue.

Mr Klibi holds the view that the league is called upon to find a solution for the basic problem which is represented in particular by the need to establish cooperation in all spheres, in particular in the economic sphere, among the Arab countries.

Regarding differences among the Arab countries, he observed that these differences do not concern basic issues and that all the Arab countries are in agreement on the political strategy approved in Baghdad.

He pointed out that the Mauritanian issue will be placed on the agenda of the league's council, due to begin its meeting in Tunis as of Monday, and that this is at Mauritania's request. The council will also discuss other issues such as Arab-European dialogue, Arab-African cooperation, relations between Mauritanian and Morocco and between Syria and Jordan.

PLO OFFICIAL ADDRESSES PALESTINIAN GRADUATES

JN202111 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1900 GMT 20 Mar 81

[Speech by Khalil al-Wazir, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces--introduced by announcer by his nom de guerre Abu Jihad--at graduation of martyr Col 'Awni Khalil 'Ubayd course; date and place not given--recorded]

[Excerpts] Brothers, all of you are following up current developments and experiencing circumstances that surround your revolution and our region in which we are witnessing these days a ferocious U.S. imperialist onslaught--this U.S. monster which is baring its black fangs everywhere in this world and carrying the policy of violence and bloody wars. We are following up this new policy begun by the U.S. administration--an onslaught against our region to establish U.S. bases wherever it can, finding agents who encourage the attempts to establish new bases to return our region to the days of war and to the darkness of occupation in other forms and ignoring the will of the peoples in the area who have struggled for long years for their freedom and their independence.

In the wake of its crime of trying to commit an act of aggression against Iran, in its abortive operation in the Iranian desert, we see this enemy continuing its policy of mobilizing fleets, trying to inspire fear in our Arab area, particularly in the Gulf, in order to create such bases and entrench its aggressive presence in our area, in addition to its support for the Zionist enemy in order to consolidate its presence.

At a time when the entire world supports us, our rights and the justice of our cause and struggle, our Zionist enemy is fully supported by the U.S. enemy and the U.S. authorities by being encouraged to commit acts of aggression against our people, build settlements and adopt other such means. However, our people know and follow up. They will not be shaken by the many forces they are facing. These forces will not demoralize our people or [words indistinct] aggression against us. They will strengthen our determination and resolve. We as a struggling force in the Palestinian revolution and the Palestinian arena should confront this Zionist-U.S. onslaught with further unity of ranks. As we approach the Palestine National Council [session], all Palestinian organizations in our Palestinian arena should be up to the level of real confrontation of this onslaught which will increase in ferocity and savagery.

How can this be accomplished? By resolving to deepen this unity in the Palestinian arena, by resolving to take practical and immediate steps on the road of genuine unity which transcends the stages of mere cooperation and coordination. The period between the previous Palestine National Council and the current one was a stage that constitutes a groundwork for the future. The spirit of cooperation in the political program agreed upon and the organizational program that was approved was a good fraternal spirit. However, it is not up to the level of our aspirations. Our militant revolutionary aspiration looks for further cohesion of the Palestinian arena. Only through genuine unity that is practiced can we confront these continued onslaughts against our people and our revolution's bases in southern Lebanon and everywhere.

PNC SPEAKER RECEIVES SALVADORAN COMMUNIST OFFICIAL

JN231653 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 23 Mar 81

[Text] Brother Khalid al-Fahum, speaker of the Palestine National Council, received in his office in Damascus today Comrade Shafik Handal, secretary general of the Salvadoran Communist Party and member of the higher command of the national liberation front in El Salvador.

The situation in the Middle East and Latin America was discussed during the meeting.

KUWAIT

MINISTER FORESEES NO REDUCTION IN OIL OUTPUT

LD241342 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1214 GMT 24 Mar 81

[Text] Kuwait, 24 Mar, (KUNA)--Kuwaiti Oil Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifh as-Sabah said in a press interview today that the world oil market at present is not suffering a glut, and he ruled out that such a glut will be reached in the near future unless Iraq and Iran, which have been engaged in a war for 6 months, increase their production.

In the interview published by the monthly ARAB OIL published here in Kuwait he mentioned that Kuwait does not intend to reduce its daily production fixed at 1.5 million barrels approximately a year ago.

Shaykh 'Ali said: "There is no glut in the oil market now, and I believe that Iran and Iraq are now producing daily approximately 1.5 million barrels, and unless their production is increased to 3 million barrels, I believe there will be no glut."

In reply to the question of whether Kuwait will reduce its production in the event of a surplus, he said: "Not necessarily, for our decisions on production are not taken thus, although we take into consideration market conditions." He added: "All that I can say now is that we have taken no initiative in this direction."

Shaykh 'Ali stressed that Kuwait imposes an additional surcharge of $5.5 over its oil price of $35.5 per barrel in respect of some sales which are under contract. However he went on to say: "The surcharge is not always fixed at $5.5, for it varies according to the terms of the contracts."

He also confirmed that Kuwait asked Japanese companies to ship 70 percent of their oil purchases by Kuwaiti tankers. He said, "This percentage also varies from one purchaser to another."

The Kuwaiti minister expressed his satisfaction with the efforts being exerted by the Western industrial countries to conserve energy. He said, "The experiments of the oil-consuming countries in the West to conserve energy is encouraging, and we are very pleased by this posture."

He noted that there was no rush for oil supplies after the breakout of the Iranian-Iraqi war and that the exports of the OPEC member countries dropped to 25 million barrels per day compared to 30 million barrels at the breakout of the war. He attributed this drop partially to the economic slump in the industrial countries, but he added that "there has been a sense of responsibility and a desire to conserve energy."

TEXT OF EDITORIAL DEFENDING EGYPT ON CAMP DAVID

GF241855 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 24 Mar 81 p 1

[Editorial by Ahmad al-Jarallah: "Time Is an Arab Remedy"]

[Text] It is impossible for Egypt to retreat from the Camp David agreement. The Arabs must stop thinking this could happen because such an attitude will ultimately undermine the world's confidence in them. If Egypt were to abrogate the Camp David agreement, the whole Arab world would face a sense of inadequacy and lack of confidence in its international agreements.

The question the Arabs must ask themselves is: What has Egypt gained or lost from the Camp David agreement? At the same time, let them also ask: To what extent has Israel benefited or lost? If the answer is clear we may be able to tally the results in order to know, exactly, whether Egypt has been unkind to us or that we have been unkind to it.

There are certain things that cannot be mentioned in footnotes to agreements of an international nature; to do so would cause their failure. However, when we penetrate deeply into their essence and get to know them well, we find ourselves facing ideas that are not far from what we all expected. That is to say, if we compare Resolution 242 with the Camp David agreement and make a thorough study of the agreement's footnotes and dimensions away from emotion and apart from an atmosphere of open disputes, we find ourselves facing new appraisals that will sweep away the harshness from the side which felt wronged and was made miserable and sad by the harshness of his relatives.

It has been proved that clearness of vision on Arab political questions can only be achieved in time. Fifteen years ago we had an opinion about the Tunisian president, but in 1967 and 1973 we discovered that we had before us a man with foresight. Let us live with time in order to learn whether Egypt has been harsh with us or we have been harsh with it.

SOME ARAB COUNTRIES MAY IMPOSE SANCTIONS ON SUDAN

LD221304 Kuwait KUNA in English 1000 GMT 22 Mar 81

[Text] Kuwait, 22 Mar, (KUNA)--A Kuwaiti newspaper said Sunday that certain Arab countries would try to impose sanctions against the Sudan for its restoration of full diplomatic ties with Egypt in violation of a collective Arab boycott of the government of President Anwar as-Sadat.

Quoting diplomatic sources AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM newspaper said that these countries, which it did not identify by name, would raise the issue at the meeting of the Arab League Council in Tunisia Monday.

The newspaper added that these countries would propose application of sanctions against any other Arab country which supports the policies of the Egyptian Government.

The Sudanese and Egyptian Governments announced yesterday restoration of full diplomatic relations after the latter were reduced to the level of charge d'affaires in protest over the Egyptian-Israeli treaty.

The Arab summit conference held in Baghdad in 1978 decided to impose economic and political boycott on Egypt for defying the Arab stand rejecting direct negotiations with the Jewish state.

Two other Arab countries, Oman and Somalia, which attended the Baghdad summit did not apply these measures against Egypt.

In the meantime the minister of state for cabinet affairs 'Abd al-Aziz Husayn denied today that Kuwait had received an invitation from Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to attend an Arab summit conference to discuss the Sundanese decision.

The minister was commenting on a report by a Cairo magazine which claimed that Al-Qadhdhafi had extended invitations to the leaders of Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, the UAE, Jordan, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia and North Yemen to attend the proposed conference.

We have no information about such an invitation, the minister said.

SAUDI ARABIA

YASIR 'ARAFAT ARRIVES 23 MAR, HOLDS MEETING

LD240916 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2225 GMT 23 Mar 81

[Text] Riyadh, 23 Mar, (SPA)--PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Riyadh this evening on a visit to the kingdom. He was welcomed by Prince Sattam ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the deputy governor of the Riyadh region.

'Arafat is accompanied by Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf.

Meeting With King Khalid

GF250558 Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 24 Mar 81

[Text] His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received at his palace in Al-Ma'dhdhar at 2030 today PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. The meeting was attended by Crown Prince and Deputy Prime Minister Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Second Deputy Prime Minister and commander of the National Guard Prince 'Abdullah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and Defense and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

Mr 'Arafat arrived in Riyadh yesterday on a visit to the kingdom.

BRITISH DEFENSE SECRETARY ARRIVES FOR TALKS

GF231948 Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 23 Mar 81

[Text] British Secretary of State for Defense John Nott arrived in Riyadh this evening for an official 3-day visit to the kingdom. The British official was received by Defense and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Assistant Minister of Defense and Aviation Shaykh 'Uthman al-Humayd, Chief of Staff Gen Muhammad Salih al-Hammad, British Ambassador to the kingdom James Craig, and a number of senior officials and officers of the armed forces.

Following his arrival the secretary said he will hold talks with Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz on issues of joint interest. He expressed his pleasure at visiting the kingdom and described Saudi-British relations as strong and old.

Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz welcomed the British defense secretary's visit to the kingdom and said in a statement to SPA that the visit will promote cooperation between the two countries under the banner of the sublime goals which the kingdom aspires to achieve in all fields in the service of humanity and peace. The prince said Saudi-British relations are based on fruitful cooperation in the interest of both friendly nations. The prince stressed military cooperation between the two countries. He said the kingdom has British-made arms and hopes military cooperation will continue.

Meeting With King Khalid

GF241944 Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 24 Mar 81

[Text] King Khalid received British defense Secretary John Nott at 1900 today in his majesty's palace in Al-Ma'adhar. The meeting was attended by Defense and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and British Ambassador to the kingdom James Craig.

Meeting With Defense Minister

GF242003 Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 24 Mar 81

[Excerpt] Defense and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz held a meeting this morning with British Defense Secretary John Nott. The Saudi side was represented in the meeting by Assistant Minister of Defense and Aviation Shaykh 'Uthman Humayd, Chief of Staff Gen Muhammad al-Hammad and head of the Foreign Ministry's office in Riyadh Shaykh 'Ali as-Suqayr. The British side was represented by the British Chief of Staff (Louis Magris) and British Ambassador to the kingdom James Craig. At the end of the meeting Prince Sultan and his guest exchanged presents.

Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz said that issues pertaining to cooperation between the two countries were discussed, particularly in the field of training in the King Faysal aviation college and the technological institute of Zahran.

YAR

YASIR 'ARAFAT MEETS WITH PRESIDENT SALIH 23 MAR

JN231244 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 23 Mar 81

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, this morning visited Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, the president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, in his office at general headquarters. They held a brotherly talk and discussed the latest developments of the Palestine question and Arab and international issues of common concern. [passage indistinct]

'Arafat Press Conference

JN231857 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 23 Mar 81

[Text] Brother Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, held a press conference this afternoon at the hall of the guest palace in San'a'. The conference was attended by Brother Hasan Ahmad al-Lawzi, minister of information and culture; chief editors of official and private papers; representatives of the radio and television; correspondents of the SABA' NEWS AGENCY and a number of news agencies in San'a'.

Minister of Information and Culture al-Lawzi welcomed brother militant Yasir 'Arafat on behalf of all those working in the press and information field, stressing their continued support for the Palestinian revolution's struggle until the restoration of all the legitimate Arab rights [words indistinct] and the successes of the revolution under the PLO's leadership.

At the beginning of the conference militant leader Yasir 'Arafat expressed the Palestinian revolution leaders' pride in the participation of the Yemeni people in the armed struggle at the side of their brothers the Palestinians and since the beginning of the Palestinian revolution. He prayed to the Almighty to grant mercy on the souls of the martyrs who fell on the path of the revolution and liberation. He also expressed his pride in the stand of President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih in opening wide the gates of jihad for the sons of the Yemeni people so that they can join the ranks of the Palestinian revolution. Brother Yasir 'Arafat said that the Yemeni and the Palestinian leaderships believe that this jihad comes to defend the entire Arab land and nation.

Further on Press Conference

JN240800 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 23 Mar 81

[Excerpt] Replying to a question by a SABA' NEWS AGENCY correspondent, Brother Yasir 'Arafat reviewed the contemporary Arab developments, particularly in the Palestinian cause. He said that the current circumstances through which the Arab nation is passing are very critical because the Arab region is surrounded by U.S. fleets and the Rapid Deployment Forces.

Brother 'Arafat added: I regret to say that these forces have managed to find bases in our region. He stressed that the gravity of this situation stems from the colonialist desires toward our Arab region because it contains the largest world oil reservoir, in addition to its important strategic position and other factors.

The PLO Executive Committee chairman denounced the Camp David accords and noted that the greatness of our Arab nation lies in the fact that the Arab peoples are fighting under these critical circumstances.

Brother 'Arafat added that the United States is using the Camp David accords to impose surrender and not peace on our nation. He asserted that the Palestinian revolution calls for the establishment of a just peace founded on the inalienable and the indispensable rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to repatriation, self-determination and the establishment of their independent state on their national soil.

Brother Yasir 'Arafat pointed out that there are world confrontations, stressing that world detente is on the brink of an abyss. He also asserted that there are attempts to undermine detente and gave examples of the attempts to transfer the cold war into a hot confrontation, as is now the case in several parts of the world.

Regarding conditions in the Gulf, Brother Yasir 'Arafat said that the war between Iraq and Iran does not favor the two peoples' interests. This war, he added, is an ordeal for the peoples of the region. He expressed his optimism in the Arab peoples' ability to attain victory and to avoid polarization.

Replying to a question by our radio correspondent, Brother 'Arafat said that the Palestinian revolution has achieved diplomatic and political successes, referring to the stages through which the Palestinian revolution has passed and to the various states' stands at the summit conferences. He explained that the Palestinian revolution has been able to achieve great victories at those conferences, particularly at the recent Islamic Conference summit in At-Ta'if. Brother 'Arafat said that the Islamic Conference's resolutions on the Palestinian issue are considered among the most important resolutions ever reached and unanimously agreed upon, particularly the call for jihad to liberate Jerusalem. Brother Yasir 'Arafat emphasized that the Palestinian cause has become a world cause which was imposed by the blood which has been flowing for 17 years.

Replying to a question by the television correspondent on the future of the Palestinian revolution, Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] said that there will be neither peace, stability, settlement nor security in the Middle East region if the Palestinian people's firm rights, including the right to repatriation and the establishment of their independent state, are ignored.

Brother Yasir 'Arafat described the European initiative as nothing but mere words, pointing in this regard to the declarations of Venice, Luxembourg and Alexandria. He described the PLO's relations with the Soviet Union and the socialist bloc as good.

Replying to a question by a correspondent of the 13 JUNE paper, Brother Yasir 'Arafat said that the Soviet Union has supported the stands of the PLO and the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front states on UN Security Council Resolution 223 on the Palestinian cause. This is considered as a victory for the Palestinian cause.

Replying to a question by a correspondent of San'a' paper [as heard], Brother Yasir 'Arafat stressed that any international negotiations on the Middle East crisis will be not practical and will not lead to any settlement if the Soviet Union is excluded.

Replying to another question by a correspondent of AL-AMAL paper on the role of the Arab masses, Brother Yasir 'Arafat said that without the participation of the Arab masses in the battle of the one Arab fate, final victory can never be achieved.

Departure Statement

JN232053 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 23 Mar 81

[Excerpts] Brother Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, and his delegation left San'a' this evening at the end of a 2-day visit to the YAR.

Speaking to a SABA' NEWS AGENCY correspondent upon his departure, Brother Yasir 'Arafat said that his talks with leader Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih were very important. These talks, he added, dealt with the Arab situation, particu'arly during the current critical circumstances through which the Arab nation is passing, and the challenges facing the Palestinian cause.

Brother 'Arafat said that he had discussed all these issues in full detail with President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, including the possibility of the Zionist enemy waging a wide-scale military operation in southern Lebanon against the joint Palestinian-Lebanese forces. Brother 'Arafat explained that as usual, President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih showed complete understanding of these issues. Yasir 'Arafat said that President Salih had asserted that the Yemeni people and government are soldiers of the Arab nation.

The two Arab leaders, Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salim and Yasir 'Arafat, held a special meeting at 1800 this evening at the Republican palace. The two leaders continued discussing the issues they raised during the morning session.

Attending the meeting this evening was Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, Fatah Central Committee member.

BUTRUS GHALI INTERVIEWED ON FOREIGN POLICY

NC242042 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 24 Mar 81

[Interview with Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali by Sana' as-Sa'id on the "Dialogue With an Official" program--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Welcome. The first question that comes to our mind is: Will there be a big gap between the U.S. views and the future European initiative on the Middle East?

[Answer] Actually, the basic aim of Egypt's diplomacy, even before the Venice declaration was made, has been to coordinate our diplomacy with European diplomacy and U.S. diplomacy. In other words, we want to avoid duality in the European and U.S. diplomatic work or moves. The aim of Egyptian diplomacy is to seek to establish coordination, so that the European diplomacy will support the U.S. diplomatic work, and vice versa. So far we have succeeded in achieving a minimum degree of cordination. We will continue to work for this coordination. This is because Western Europe and the United States are allies in Nato, and it is in the interest of the Arab world and Egypt for these allies to speak the same language when dealing with the Middle East question.

[Question] Your Excellency Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali, some see a difference between the U.S. and European attitudes, in that Reagan tends to view the regional conflicts from the angle of the East-West conflict, which in turn minimizes the importance of the Palestine question, while Europe believes that the Palestine question is the cornerstone in the Middle East.

[Answer] Actually this is theoretical. If we agree that the European states play a leading role within the NATO alliance and that the NATO alliance is one of the mainstays of East-West confrontation, then we can say that the United States must take into consideration Western Europe's views on the Middle East in general and the Palestine question in particular. Through U.S.-European alliance we can strengthen, as I have said, or help strengthen, coordination between U.S. and European diplomacy.

[Question] In this context it is also being said that Europe is no less committed to guaranteeing the security of Israel, and on this basis realizes that unless the Palestinians' legitimate rights are fulfilled tension will increase and, consequently, that the organization must participate in the promotion of a peaceful settlement--a matter on which Israel and the United States are dragging their feet.

[Answer] This question in fact covers a number of points. The first is that Europe should have special commitments as far as guarantees for a peaceful settlement in the Middle East are concerned. I agree with this idea for many reasons. First, as I said, Europe is in the NATO alliance with the United States. European states have been asked more than once to participate in security operations or guarantees in areas outside NATO. Second, the Middle East, or rather the Mediaterranean, falls within the NATO area framework. Third, we must not forget that Britain and France are permanent members of the Security Council and have veto rights, and, as such, they are requested to play an essential part in promoting security in the world, including the Middle East. Therefore, the European states are committed to play a role in establishing security in the world, including the Middle East.

As far as the PLO is concerned, if we go back to the Camp David documents we will see a tacit reference to this organization. It is stipulated that the Palestinian people in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip must participate in the negotiations--at least in the first stage of the negotiations--and that in addition to the Palestinian people's representatives in the Strip and the West Bank, other Palestinians have a right to participate. This phrase means the representatives of the PLO. This has been mentioned several times.

Furthermore, even the representatives of the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank will not participate in the negotiations, directly or indirectly, through a representative or any other way, without the approval of the PLO. So if the representatives of the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank participate it would be with the implicit approval of the PLO. Accordingly, we can find more than one alternative or solution so that the PLO could participate in the future negotiations, whether directly or indirectly, and so we can forge a compromise between the European views and the U.S. views on the settlement of the problem.

[Question] Is it within this framework that there is an inclination now to form a military force in which the United States, Britain and France and some other Western states would participate to defend the Gulf and confront the Soviet interference in the area? A short while ago I sensed that you favor this idea.

[Answer] This is incorrect. Naturally, this is my personal opinion. My personal opinion since 1950, when the Arab states signed the joint defense treaty, was that the philosophical basis for ratifying this treaty is that the defense of the region should come from the region. In other words, we accept foreign arms and we are in need of foreign aid to keep an arms balance, but the region's defense must be the responsibility of its people. Consequently, we do not accept any military aid represented in the stationing of foreign forces in this region. This is the first point.

The second point is that if some states were to accept the presence of foreign forces in the region to defend it then this would be tantamount to those states' deviation from the policy of nonalignment. This policy is the biggest common denominator among all Arab states, despite their internal disagreements. According to the OAU Charter, this policy is the biggest common denominator among all African states. According to this policy, it is inadmissible to conclude an alliance with any big foreign state. It is inadmissible to open the country to military bases of foreign states. Consequently, the presence of a foreign force in the region would blatantly violate the principles and aims of the philosophy of nonalignment. For these reasons combined it was my personal opinion that the region should reject any foreign military presence and try to strengthen itself, because real defense can only come from the region itself.

[Question] Even if this presence was merely that of the Rapid Deployment Force?

[Answer] Here we must consider each issue according to the view of the state. If an aggression actually takes place and if this aggression (?threatens) a major military confrontation or the start of third world war, then the policy of nonalignment would lose its importance. The nonaligned states would then be required to reconsider the main principles to which they committed themselves. In other words, the nonaligned policy's purpose is to confront the cold war and to help the states which are still under the yoke of colonialism to get rid of it. However, if the cold war were to turn into a third world war or a new war, then the policy of nonalignment would lose its importance and there would be no objection to reconsider the bases of this policy and adopt new stands to confront the danger of the new war which might have broken out in the region.

'ALI MAKES STATEMENTS DURING EUROPEAN TOUR

Statement in Switzerland

NC241604 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1505 GMT 24 Mar 81

[Text] Bern, 24 Mar (MENA)--Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has stated that by inviting the Libyan forces, Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei has done in Chad what Babrak Karmal has done in Afghanistan. 'Ali said that the Soviet interference in Afghanistan has become a source of danger to the region and that the Libyan interference in Chad has also become a source of danger to the neighboring states.

In a statement to representatives of the French and English language newspapers in Switzerland, 'Ali added that from the premise of its rejection of the major powers' interference in the domestic affairs of other states and of its faith in the need to base policies on the principles of ethics, Egypt has extended material and moral support to the Afghan people in their struggle against the armed aggression on their land.

'Ali pointed out that the failure of the Arabs to adopt decisive stands on the Soviet aggression against Afghanistan has encouraged Moscow to increase its interference and has added to the likelihood of its interference in areas such as the Middle East and the Arab Gulf.

Regarding the Palestinian question, 'Ali said: The overwhelming majority of the Israeli people want peace. What remains is that the parties and leaders in Israel should help the Israeli people attain comprehensive peace. 'Ali pointed out that any future Israeli Government must prepare the Israeli public opinion to the necessity of making real concessions regarding the Palestinian question and the right of Palestinians to self-determination.

Statements in Copenhagen

NC242223 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 24 Mar 81

[Excerpt] Following his arrival in Denmark for a 3-day visit as part of his current tour of northwestern European states, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali made statements in which he stressed that Egypt's policy in pursuit of peace is continuing and that there will be no backing down on this policy. He said that the U.S. Government's statements [words indistinct] the Camp David agreement as a basis for peace in the Middle East. He added that Egypt is cooperating with all states to achieve peace.

'Ali also said that the Middle East peace dispute must be the focus of world attention because the settlement of this dispute would lead to peace in the Middle East. He added that Egypt offered facilities to the United States to create an equilibrium in the region and help the Arab states. 'Ali went on that Egypt made a move with the European Community and that it was necessary to hold contacts with the northern states. He added that the question of the participation of the northern states in the multinational force was raised during the discussions he held in Norway and that this question will be discussed during the meeting which the northern states foreign ministers will hold in Stockholm on 31 March and 1 April. 'Ali said that Egypt welcomes the participation of states in this force and that the United States has contacted more than 20 states regarding their participation in this force.

'Ali said that the autonomy discussions were suspended because Israel has ideas which conflict with the text and spirit of the Camp David agreement and the Egyptian ideas and in order to await the conclusion of the Israeli elections and the crystallization of the views of the new U.S. administration. He added that President as-Sadat has called for the convocation of a tripartite summit conference to discuss the problems which obstruct the autonomy negotiations and the implementation of the Camp David agreement.

'Ali also said that the EEC states' stand does not conflict at all with the Camp David agreement. Answering a question on Egypt's attitude toward Moshe Dayan's proposals, 'Ali said that Egypt does not accept any proposal the components of which are incomplete.

Interview With Danish TV

NC250613 Cairo MENA in English 2243 GMT 24 Mar 81

[Text] Copenhagen, 24 Mar (MENA)--Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali in an interview with the Danish TV network here tonight said that the Palestinian problem was the cause of instability in the Middle East area and the channel for foreign intervention.

"If we seek comprehensive peace and stability in the area we should solve this problem," he said, adding that the Iraqi-Iranian dispute was a border dispute and the start of a new conflict which could not be said to be the reason of instability in the area.

'Ali reiterated that the continuation of the Palestinian problem was the reason for foreign intervention and expressed Egypt's conviction that there would be no end to instability in the area except by solving this problem, "after which there will be no need for the presence of the two superpowers in the area, and no conflict between them will exist," the deputy premier said.

In answer to a question on the facilities granted by Egypt to the United States, he said it was Egypt which requested giving those facilities to the U.S. due to the absence of U.S. influence in the area which led to the intervention by the other side. "Such facilities aim at creating equilibrium between the superpowers", he said. 'Ali said that Egypt welcomed the creation of equilibrium in the area and expressed its readiness to provide the United States with facilities and not bases. He pointed out that the facilities were over an Egyptian base and that it would be for limited period, in pursuit to Egypt's desire to achieve certain targets. Deputy Premier Hasan 'Ali said that the naval base "Ra's Banas" was the suitable base for those facilities for central position over the Red Sea and the Arabian Peninsula.

Speaking about the multi-national force in the Sinai, the Egyptian foreign minister pointed out that that force would not use its airports except for peaceful missions.

Egypt was hopeful that a peace-keeping force be formed in the Sinai under the banner of the United Nations, he said, adding that he had held talks in this connection with former American Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and former Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan. Egypt also approached the Soviet Union to win its approval at the Security Council, but it failed, 'Ali said.

He further said that Egypt welcomed all countries to participate in the formation of the peace force, and referred in this regard to the approval in principle of some Latin American countries to contribute to the force. Egypt was interested to form a peace force comprising all countries that showed interest in the stability of the Middle East, particularly Scandinavian countries which contributed in the past to the formation of international troops, and Australia. [Passage indistinct] Scandinavian countries to the formation of the peace force was left to those countries to decide.

'Ali, meanwhile, told Egyptian pressmen that he was only sounding out Scandinavian countries concerning their contribution to the multi-national force bearing in mind the existence of constitutional difficulties over the participation of those neutral countries in the formation of a force away from the banner of the United Nations. He said, however, that Norway volunteered to air the issue before the forthcoming meeting of the foreign ministers of Scandinavia, scheduled to take place in Stockholm on 31 March and 2 April.

The foreign minister said that Egypt was having a continued dialogue with Europe. Elaborating, he said that President Anwar as-Sadat's recent visit to the European Parliament in Luxembourg was part of the Euro-Arab dialogue.

The Egyptian foreign minister's current tour of Europe was also part of the dialogue, 'Ali said.

About Egyptian-Scandinavian relations, 'Ali said that his current tour was aimed at promoting those relations, adding that he discussed in Norway means of boosting bilateral cooperation.

AGRO-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX TOURED BY AS-SADAT

NC241530 Cairo MENA in English 1500 GMT 24 Mar 81

[Text] Ismailia, 24 Mar (MENA)--President Anwar as-Sadat stressed that Egypt will be producing all her needs of food by the year 1985 if not before that date.

Inspecting the agro-industrial complex in As-Salihiyah which is constructed over an area of fifty thousand feddans using the most up-to-date agricultural and irrigation equipment and technology, President as-Sadat said, "We have found the correct starting point for the radical solutions of our problems as we now possess the technology and potentials."

During his tour in the huge project which is being implemented in Ash-Sharqiyah governorate, lower Egypt, President as-Sadat gave his directives to those responsible for the project, stressing that the Egyptian people rise to the level of responsibility in confronting the huge challenges and the efforts exerted and achievements made by the Egyptian people in this respect come in conformity with the hugeness of these challenges.

President as-Sadat directed that lands and all possible facilities be given to everyone who manages to buy a machine for irrigation by sprinkling in order to encourage the private sector to enter ventures in the field of agriculture.

The president was accompanied during his tour of the huge project by Deputy Premier for Popular Development Engineer 'Uthman Ahmad 'Uthman and Minister of Reconstruction and Minister of State for Housing and Land Reclamation Engineer Hasaballah al-Kafrawi.

On his arrival at the site of the project President as-Sadat was received by board chairman of the Arab Contractors Company which undertakes the implementation of the project Engineer Husayn 'Uthman, Governor of Ismailia 'Abd al-Mun'im 'Amarah and top officials in charge of the project.

President as-Sadat listened to a detailed a ccount on the progress made in carrying out the plan to cultivate the area. He made a tour of the area of the project and attended a practical demonstration for cultivation of new lands by using the most up-to-date equipment. He also witnessed another demonstration on the preparation of crops for exportation.

President as-Sadat also visited the animal husbandry section where he inspected the cattle growing from improved foreign breed which has a high capacity in producing meat and milk. He attended a demonstration on artificial insemination whereby Egypt will enter a new era in animal husbandry.

Engineer Husayn 'Uthman told President as-Sadat that fifty thousand feddans have already been placed under production in the project. After hearing a detailed report on the progress of work in the project, President as-Sadat thanked those in charge of the project and hoped them further success.

President as-Sadat then boarded a helicopter and made a tour over the new Mt Abu al-Kawm village in Sinai and the youth farms there.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUE 285

JN241651 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1630 GMT 24 Mar 81

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Mar (INA)--During the past 24 hours the Iraqi forces inflicted 132 dead on the Iranian enemy and destroyed 6 tanks, 4 infantry positions, 1 rocket launcher, 2 field guns, 1 observation post and 1 armored personnel carrier. This was stated in Communique No 285 issued here this evening by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 285 issued by the Armed Forces General Command:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With great faith and confidence in the ability to consolidate victory, our armed forces continued to pound the racist Persian forces. The following are the results of the activities carried out in the various operations sectors yesterday evening and today:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. A force belonging to our advanced units clashed with a group of enemy trops in the Iranian region opposite Panjwin and forced the enemy to flee after killing 17 and destroying 3 vehicles.
B. Three were killed and three infantry positions were destroyed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region.
C. One of our advanced units attacked enemy concentrations and positions in the Gilan-e Gharb region, killing 43 and destroying 2 tanks.
D. An enemy troop concentration was sighted opposite our positions in Sayf Sa'd. Our forces pounded it with various weapons and forced it to retreat, leaving behind 29 dead.
E. Our units pounded an enemy concentration in the Mehran region with artillery and mortars and forced the enemy to retreat, leaving behind 22 dead.
F. One field gun was destroyed in the Dezful region.
G. One of our unit's forces raided a concentration of enemy armor in the Shush region and pounded it with all sorts of weapons, killing two and destroying four tanks and one armored personnel carrier.
H. Three were killed in Khafajiyah [Susangerd].
I. Three were killed and one rocket launcher and one excavator were destroyed in the Ahvaz region.
J. Ten were killed and one infantry position, one vehicle, one field gun and one observation post were destroyed in the Abadan region.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 132 dead, 4 infantry positions, 6 tanks, 1 ammored personnel carrier, 4 vehicles, 2 field guns, 1 rocket launcher, 1 excavator and 1 observation post.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 13 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: One tank, one vehicle and two mortars were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 24 March 1981

INDUSTRY MINISTER CONFERS WITH TURKISH MINISTER

JN241553 Baghdad INA in English 1530 GMT 24 Mar 81

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Mar (INA)--Revolution Command Council member and Minister of Industry and Minerals Tahir Tawfiq met here today with the visiting Turkish Minister of Energy and Natural Resources Serbulent Bingol. The two ministers discussed aspects of cooperation between the two countries in various domans for the service of the two neighbouring countries' peoples. Mr Tawfiq expressed satisfaction for the standing bilateral realtions and said that mutual visits are positive, fruitful and contribute in developing the relations. The Turkish minister expressed his country's willingness to deepen cooperation with Iraq.

BAGHDAD CALLS ON IRANIANS TO HELP KURDS FREE IRAN

NC241456 Baghdad in Persian to Iran 0600 GMT 24 Mar 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Khomeyni's corrupt regime does not want to return the Kurds their rights because it does not want Kordestan to become an example; because it wants to expand its bloody domination throughout Iran since it knows that the Kurds are not only fighting for their own rights but for the freedom of Iran.

Despite all the efforts by Tehran's oppressors, Khomeyni and his clergymen, who have been placed in power with the overall assistance of world imperialism, did not succeed in Kordestan. The forces of oppression, Khomeyni's envoys to Kordestan who are in fact the guards of Khomeyni and his regime, burned and destroyed the Jame' mosque of Mahabad, riddled the people who were praying with bullets and the worshippers were either killed or injured, arrested or made to flee. As if the shelling of Mahabad and the massacre of even cats and dogs in the streets of Sanadaj were not enough, the Kurds--this justice-seeking and struggling people--were placed under a food and fuel siege. The troops of Khomeyni, this Yazid [son of Mu'awiyah, an Omayyad caliph, on whose orders Imam Husayn ibn 'Ali was martyred] of ages, even destroyed the drinking water network of Mahabad so that the Mahabad inhabitants would be deprived of potable water. What did Yazid do? Did Yazid not send his troops to confront the hero of Islam, Husayn ibn 'Ali, cut the water and made Husayn ibn 'Ali and his friends face thirst? History has repeated itself and, of course, this time by Khomeyni. The disastrous crime of Shemr [general who killed Imam Husayn in Karbala] and Yazid against Imam Husayn was repeated by Bani-Sadr and Khomeyni against the struggling Kurdish people and Khomeyni's guards even cut bread and fuel supplies from the people of freed Kordestan of Iran and that in the cold and freezing winter. Is this not history repeating itself?

Another report which was published in the latter part of winter and which was reported by Marivan's governor is that Marivan was facing a great fuel shortage. Was the napam boming of Marivan not enough in confronting the strugglers of (?that city) that they also had to cut the city's oil and gasoil supplies? Does anyone know what it means not to have fuel in the severe mountain winters? The situation was so heart-rending that even the governor of Marivan, the representative of Khomeyni's antipeople regime, (?amidst his praises) [words indistinct] of the regime and Tehran's fascist forces, did not tolerate the fuel shortage and said: "We are facing a great fuel shortage and the people responsible for fuel distribution in the province should help us."

Will a regime of blood and fire, which gets its (?orders) from the sick brain of Khomeyni and bombs Marivan and its vicinities, help? Mr Governor of Marivan, they are fooling you. They have not come to help the Kurdish people and other people in Iran. They have not come to free the Iranian people. The mullahs have not come to return the rights of the Iranian peoples, to distribute oil, bread, money and jobs. The mullahs and the Bani-Sadrs have not come to bring welfare and progress to Iran. They are traitors who, after the uprising of the deprived masses of Iran and their shouts demanding freedom, were sent to Iran with the help of Western imperialism to stifle the shouts, to prevent the Iranian masses from asking for their rights and from struggling against imperialism, from asking for a good and happy life filled with comprehensive freedoms. The mullahs--this united force of imperialism--who have made Kordestan into a bloodbath, have come to create disorders, to destroy Iran and to place it under the yoke of dictatorship. They have come to make the people regret having carried out a revolution, to impose silence and to establish neo-fascism, a reactionary fascism engineered and built by colonialism and misleadingly labled "Islamic revolution."

Oh revolutionaries of Iran, oh freedom wanters and strugglers, history (?is being made today) and tomorrow, the day after the downfall of the ruling regime, and will reveal the truth, the truth about the 2 years of the destructive and (?antipeople) regime's (?acts) in Kordestan.

Its historic crimes will be revealed to the Iranians and to the world when the rule of blood and fire, the rule of threats and terror, the bloody domination of the representatives of imperialism in Iran ends. Then it will be revealed what savage crimes the antipeople turbaned men of Tehran committed in Koredestan and how they executed many groups of struggling children of the Kurdish people without trials and without having any files on them.

What should one do against this ruling terror, oh strugglers of Iran? What should one do against this rule of terror? The zoo which is called the "Islamic Republic" of Khomeyni has stained not only the name of Islam, but also the concept of republic, of freedom of revolution and of everything human. This is not a rule, but a disgrace. It is the bloody domination of those brought to power by colonialism and who are ruling people who have shown that they are anti-imperialist, anti-American and antidictatorship. It is a disgraceful (?rule), gaining its strength from imperialism and from the treacherous Tudeh Party, which is trying to bring Iran close to its downfall, dependence, partition and destruction. What should one do against savage people who are lagging behind in the fight with the Kurdish strugglers and who have (?dastardly) closed the way to fuel, medicine, water and food, oh freedom-wanters of Iran? Should Kordestan be left alone? Certainly not. You should rise to assist the Kurds and to fulfill their true ideal--the freedom of entire Iran. Rise and start a tempest. Take the machineguns from the shaking and terrified revolutionary guards and, together with the Kurdish people, overthrow (?the rule of blood and fire).

KURDISH RADIO REPORTS 17 FEB PESHMERGA BATTLE

JN211646 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Revolution in Surani Kurdish 1515 GMT 19 Mar 81

[Text] On 17 February 1981, a force comprising 500 of the brutish mercenaries and fascist agents who have sold their souls to the devil launched a wide-scale attack on the villages of Nodeh, (Al-Karradeh), (Hawgadar) and (Sar Pazir). The peshmerga of the third platoon of the third sector, who were stationed in the village of Nodeh, stood bravely in the face of the mercenaries and fought them in a fierce battle despite their very limited number. The peshmerga fought the enemy with great courage until they were supported by a joint relief force of the peshmerga of the first, third and fifth sectors as well as those of the first branch of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan who happened to be in the same area.

Finding themselves in a very weak position in facing the valiant peshmerga, the mercenaries asked for aid from the occupation forces. A short while after that, two enemy helicopters arrived at the battle scene and took part in the fighting, but the steadfast peshmerga continued to fight bravely for more than 5 hours. The mercenaries were then forced to retreat to their own positions but were ambushed by a joint force of the peshmerga of the third and the fifth sectors in the area of (Shakhi Patwi Pajkul). The bold peshmerga opened fire at the enemy from all directions, sending the agents and fascists to hell. The agent mercenaries continued to retreat and took positions among the innocent inhabitants of the village of Nodeh. The mercenaries also took with them some of the innocent inhabitants to use as a cover to defend themselves against the fire of the peshmerga.

The agent mercenaries lost 15 killed and many others wounded in this fierce battle. Our losses were: the wounding of one of the bold peshmerga and the martydom of hero Doctor Brother (Banz) who has joined the innocent spirit of great Dr Sakhtyar and the rest of the immortal martyrs who have paved the way for this glorious and blessed revolution. Doctor (Banz) was first wounded and taken as captive by the enemy yet he killed himself. Thousands of greetings to the immortal soul of martyr Doctor (Banz) and to the souls of all martyrs who fall on the path of freedom and independence to pave the way for the oppressed and the homeless. Victory for the revolution and the oppressed. Shame and disgrace for the fascist regime in Baghdad and for the traitor mercenaries.

PREMIER, ARMY COMMANDER TO ACCOMPANY KING TO USSR

JN241310 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1255 GMT 24 Mar 81

[Text] Moscow, 24 Mar (INA)--Informed sources said here today that Jordanian King Husayn's visit to the USSR will take place toward the end of May.

These sources said that the Jordanian king will be accompanied on this visit by Prime Minister Mudar Badran and Army Commander Lt Gen Zayd Ibn Shakir.

The sources also said that the talks with the Soviet leaders will center on the situation in the Arab region and military cooperation between the two countries.

FIRST INSTALLMENT OF SAUDI AID FOR OCCUPIED LANDS

JN241055 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 24 Mar p 1

[Text] Amman--A reliable source in Amman yesterday said that Saudi Arabia has paid the first installment of its obligations to the fund for bolstering steadfastness in the occupied territory. The installment is $15 million.

The source said that Saudi Arabia is the first Arab state to pay its obligations to this fund in 1981.

The joint Jordanian-Palestinian Committee for Bolstering the Steadfastness of the Kinfolk in the Occupied Arab Territory will meet in Amman tomorrow to discuss how Arab countries are honoring their obligations to this fund as well as other issues.

PALESTINIAN DELEGATION TO COMMITTEE ARRIVES

JN250735 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 25 Mar p 1

[Text] Amman--Members of the Palestinian side in the joint Jordanian-Palestinian Committee for Bolstering Steadfastness in the Occupied Arab Lands arrived in Amman yesterday to attend the committee meeetings, which will begin today.

The delegation was received by Shawkat Mahmud, under secretary of the Occupied Land Affairs Ministry, and several PLO office officials in Amman.

The Palestinian side, which is headed by Hamid Abu Sittah, comprises Khalil al-Wazir, Hani al-Hasan and 'Abd ar-Rahim Ahmad.

AMMAN VIEWS SYRIAN DISTURBANCES, REGIME'S NEPOTISM

JN241814 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 24 Mar 81

[Text] Reports from Damascus indicate that disturbances in Syria have now reached Qardahah, the birthplace of Hafiz al-Asad. Reports indicate that acts of violence erupted between citizens from the 'Alawite community and defense squads which were sent to the area to end the disturbances. Reports also stress that the acts of violence began to escalate after the broadcast of the confessions of 'Alawite Col 'Adnan Barakat over Jordanian television. These confessions, the reports add, revealed the full truth to the 'Alawites and proved that the Al-Asad brothers are responsible for involving the 'Alawites' sons into murders that serve the ruling clique, the thing which has brought woes to the Syrian people, particularly the 'Alawite community.

Reports also indicate that the 'Alawites realized that Rif'at al-Asad's policy of appointing a small group of his relatives and proteges to posts from which money can pour into their pockets, will further implicate them in the eyes of the rest of the Syrian people. The 'Alawites further realized that the Al-Asad's policy has turned them into executioners, murderers and criminals.

Reports from the Syrian coast area said that the number of detainees in the cities of Latakia and Baniyas amounts to 900, including some 250 male and female students who were arrested on charges of cooperating with those opposing the regime such as the Muslim Brotherhood, the Iraqi Ba'th Party and other leftist factions in Syria.

Reports from Latakia said that the regime's security authorities threatened to execute groups of those students who refuse to cooperate with the regime's suppressive organs. This threat caused worries and deep concern among the students' families, who sent representatives to Damascus to contact Hafiz al-Asad. Hafiz al-Asad was forced to transfer some of the arrested students to the well-known Tudmur prison and others to Tartus prison.

In Homs Syrian security forces killed four students, some of whom are from the Al-Kibriti family, near the oil refinery. The Syrian security forces also arrested Sa'ad al-'Attar, a teacher at the Homs school for girls.

Also in Homs, reports said that a group of opposition elements opened fire on a defense squad vehicle at Al-Quttaynah garage in the city. One of the defense squad elements was killed in this incident. Another opposition group attacked a chemical fertilizers factory and destroyed most of its installations.

Reports from the Syrian capital of Damascus asserted that a group of opposition elements launched a rocket attack against a number of defense squad soldiers while they were unloading a vehicle in Al-Maydan Square. Four of the defense squad members were killed and three others were wounded in this attack. The attackers managed to flee.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO MALDIVES--Amman, 24 Mar (PETRA)--The Jordanian Government has approved the establishment of diplomatic relations with the Republic of Maldives and the accreditation of our ambassador in Islamabad as a non-resident ambassador to the Maldives. [Text] [Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1425 GMT 24 Mar 81 JN]

CSSR REPORTEDLY HELPS PFLP WITH MISSILE BASE

NC241253 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 24 Mar 81

[Text] The Lebanese authorities today received a report saying that Czechoslovak officers are cooperating with members of the PFLP in surveying [words indistinct] near Sidon in order to establish a communist-made missile base for the PFLP.

PRIME MINISTER AL-WAZZAN VISITS SIDON 24 MAR

NC241637 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 24 Mar 81

[Excerpt] Today was the day of the south through the visit which Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan made to Sidon. Prime Minister al-Wazzan held a number of meetings in order to familiarize himself with the conditions at first hand.

The meetings began with a meeting with Governor Halim Fayyad and the heads of the administrative units in the presence of Health Minister Dr Nazih al-Bizri. It was followed by a meeting with the military and security commanders, another with the heads of the Islamic and Christian communities and yet another with Sidon's economists. The conditions in and problems of Sidon as well as the needs of the southerners in general and particularly the areas that were subjected to shelling were raised at these meetings. During the meetings Prime Minister al-Wazzan explained the government's policy and promised to fulfill many of the vital and urgent demands.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan then visited the army barracks in Sidon where he was received by senior officers. He held a meeting with them during which several military affairs were discussed.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan then held a meeting with UN forces commander General Callaghan. The latter expressed the determination of the UN forces to implement the tasks entrusted to them. Prime Minister al-Wazzan responded by saying that the government was fully prepared to cooperate with the UN forces to restore security, stability and legitimate authority to all the southern areas.

While Al-Wazzan was opening the exhibition of the week of the handicapped in the cultural center of Sidon--as has been the case whenever he met with delegations in the south--voices were raised calling for the army and for legitimacy.

In a speech he delivered at the opening of the exhibition Prime Minister al-Wazzan replied to the voices that were raised calling for the army.

24 Mar Speech

NC241740 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 24 Mar 81

[Speech delivered by Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan on 24 March at the opening of the fair of the week of the handicapped in Sidon--recorded]

[Excerpt] The will of the Lebanese people remains sound. They are unanimous in their will to raise the homeland from its fall and safeguard their unity and their territorial integrity. They are also unanimous in their will to exert all efforts to begin the march of restoring a normal and secure life to the homeland, its sons, institutions, economy, aspirations and ambitions. However, the homeland is now handicapped. The blows directed at it and the ambitions in it have increased. Whenever we receive a wound, we mobilize our efforts, determination and will and try to surge forward.

When we announced our determination to send more Lebanese Army forces to our land in the south, [applause] Israel, represented in its facade and the contractor of its operations Sa'd Haddad, undermined this effort, determination and will. Whenever we began to work toward stabilizing the security and opening the outlets and bridges, we were confronted by the tendentious and conspiratorial hands sniping this effort, determination and will. Whenever we exerted efforts aimed at starting the dialogue, achieving accord, uniting the ranks and repairing the rift, our initiative was met with snares, invented slips, barriers and barricades. It appears that despite the will of the Lebanese--citizens and officials--who pant after and seek a touch of unification, glimpse of hope and a glow of security, stability and accord--the intention is to keep the homeland's resources handicapped and its will for well-being and unification paralyzed. [applause]

Sisters and brothers, members of the committee of the week of the handicapped: May your committee be blessed. Oh Lebanese: All of you in all your factions and positions are called upon to become a front for the rescue of Lebanon, the sources of which are handicapped and the will of whose sons is shackled. If your resources and will are mobilized and united, then they would form a boiling caldron that would provide stands and positions guaranteeing the return of the homeland to the lap of cohesion and fraternity and the return of normal life.

We support your voices calling for the dispatch of more Lebanese Army forces to the south. These forces will find themselves on their soil in south Lebanon as soon as objective circumstances permitting this are made available. The shelling coming from Israel--the beyond-the-border Israel--or from Israel's agent along the border strip does not frighten or terrify us. From this platform in this steadfast southern city, we want our voice to be heard. We emphasize our determination to exercise our right of sovereignty over all parts of Lebanon, mainly on the land of the south. [applause] We are also determined to send more forces of our army there. The land there belongs to us and this is our right. Therefore, everybody is invited to facilitate the entry of more Lebanese Army forces into the south. We are doing our best to provide the circumstances and potentials which would realize this great national aim. It is an aim which naturally conforms with our other national aims, mainly supporting the Palestinian question and the just Palestinian struggle.

Honorable gathering, honorable sons of Sidon, sons of the afflicted and steadfast south who are the target of killing, plotting, and displacement, and whose spilled blood has flowed from the south and spread throughout the homeland, your tragedy epitomizes the tragedy of Lebanon. From this rostrum in the south, I raise the voice on your behalf--a resounding outcry in the face of the international community and the big powers which are behaving as if they do not care about the innocent people being killed, the blood being shed, and the towns, villages and homes destroyed with every sunrise. It is as if the people of this homeland are not a part of mankind and do not deserve the care, mercy and justice of their fellow men. [applause]

The discussions and deliberations held in this connection at the Security Council, and the actual attitudes reflected in these discussions and deliberations, did not live up to the values and principles on which the United Nations and on which legitimate human rights were founded and to which the peaceful and small nations looked with hope and expectation.

This is also an occasion warranting a resounding call to the Arab brothers to jointly resolve to rescue this afflicted Arab country from its perpetual and far-reaching tragedy. Southern Lebanon, in particular, and Lebanon, in general, are paying the blood tax for all the Arabs and for all the Arab causes, especially the sacred cause of Palestine.

If united, Arab wills and resources can, with intent, resolve and seriousness, make it possible for the Lebanese situation to be rid of the nightmares of terror and destruction, thus enabling Lebanon to begin its journey back to normalcy in order to play its natural role in the service of the Arab causes, especially the first sacred Arab cause of Palestine.

SALVADORAN COMMUNIST OFFICIAL VISITS LEBANON

NC211416 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1245 GMT 21 Mar 81

[Text] Comrade Shafik Handal, the secretary general of the Communist Party in El Salvador and one of the leaders of the Farabundo Marti front for national liberation, has asserted that the revolution of the El Salvadoran people is advancing successfully despite the U.S. military and material support for the ruling military clique. He said that the military interference in El Salvador will not dissuade the revolutionary movement from continuing the struggle to attain its aims because it has all the potential to resist this interference. He said: We assure the world that we will resist. We will not submit to direct U.S. military interference in our country.

Comrade Shafik Handal is continuing his political meetings in Lebanon. Yesterday he met with the executive committee of the Lebanese national movement's political central council. The committee members told Comrade Handal that the national movement is in sympathy with the struggle of the people in El Salvador against the ruling fascist (?clique) and against the blatant U.S. interference in the affairs of El Salvador.

Handal had met with Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] at the beginning of his political meetings. At a long meeting Brother Abu 'Ammar acquainted the leader of the Salvadoran Communist Party with the political developments in the area and the plots of the Zionist-imperialist alliance against the revolution and the PLO. He affirmed the Palestinian revolution's solidarity with the struggle of the friendly Salvadoran people. Comrade Handal emphasized the firm alliance between the Salvadoran and Palestinian peoples struggling against the common imperialist-Zionist enemy.

Comrade Handal has also visited the Tall az-Za'tar inhabitants who are now living in Ad-Damur. He also visited some positions of the Palestinian revolution.

Beirut Rally Address

NC221317 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1115 GMT 22 Mar 81

[Text] A mass popular rally was held in the Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir hall at the Arab university of Beirut in solidarity with the people of El Salvador against U.S. imperialism. It was attended by Palestinian resistance leaders and Lebanese nationalist movement leaders.

Lebanese Communist Party leader Comrade Nicola Shawi spoke on behalf of the Lebanese nationalist movement. He reaffirmed the support of the nationalist movement, which stands in unity with the Palestinian resistance, for the people and revolution of El Salvador. He emphasized that U.S. intervention in El Salvador constitutes a threat to world peace.

Shafik Handal, member of the Command Council of the Farabundo Marti front for the liberation of El Salvador, made a speech in which he stressed that the Farabundo Marti--the democratic front for the liberation of El Salvador--will continue to resist imperialist intervention until the end, until victory.

He added: We resist imperialism by tradition. All the people of all Latin America are moving toward salvation from imperialist influence in the region.

He also said: We are in one trench with the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese nationalist movement because we are fighting against the same Israeli-imperialist enemy. Israeli interference began in 1974 through the dispatch of Israeli agents and experts to support the dictatorial regime. Massacres and persecutions also began at the hands of the Israelis and the Americans. Priests, students and peasants were killed in El Salvador.

He added: It is true that the blood of our martyrs is shed outside Palestine, but it is shed for Palestine as well [as El Salvador]. The day will come when our blood will mix with the blood of the Palestinian and Lebanese people against the Zionist enemy. Armed struggle here and there expresses the same cause and objectives. People sacrifice their lives when they are sure of victory. We realize that the struggle is long, but we are very confident that the Salvadoran, Palestinian and Lebanese people will triumph.

Referring to U.S. secretary of state's description of cooperation between the PLO and El Salvador as cooperation in terrorism, he said: We in the Salvadoran revolution welcome this cooperation which the United States regards as a crime. The United States is the enemy of the nations who love peace, democracy, and national independence. The people of Nicaragua have triumphed, and so will the people of El Salvador, the people of Latin America and the people of the Middle East.

Concluding, he said: We affirm that solidarity and cooperation is complete between the Palestinian revolution and the democratic front for the liberation of El Salvador, and the same applies to the Lebanese nationalist movement.

Comrade Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, spoke on behalf of the Palestinian revolution. He underscored the solidarity of the world liberation movements against imperialism and Zionism.

He added: From Palestine and its olive orchards we greet our comrades the revolutionaries in El Salvador. We confirm our confidence in their ability to achieve victory as the revolution triumphed in Nicaragua.

ENVOY DISCUSSES UN SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE

NC211855 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 21 Mar 81

[Text] At 1600 today Lebanese UN Ambassador Ghassan Tuwayni arrived in Beirut from New York. At the airport he answered questions from our correspondent:

[Begin recording] [Question] Can you tell us the purpose of your return to Lebanon?

[Answer] The purpose is to hold consultations on the course we must adopt regarding Lebanon's complaint and the draft resolution currently being discussed.

[Question] What is your stand toward the statement issued by the Security Council chairman concerning southern Lebanon, and do you feel that this statement will put an end to the military operations directed against southern Lebanon?

[Answer] Naturally, the statement, or rather the declaration, that was issued by the Security Council chairman is merely a declaration. It deals with one topic that forms a part of Lebanon's complaint, namely, the deployment of the Lebanese Army in Al-Qantarah and the incident involving the UN forces which resulted in the death of three Nigerian soldiers and the wounding of others.

[Question] What has become of Lebanon's complaint against Israel, and do you consider that the postponement of the complaint is due to the differences in views between the United States and the Soviet Union?

[Answer] There have been no differences over the complaint, but the adoption of a resolution has been postponed. What is important for us is to proceed with the complaint until a resolution is issued. However, what is more important than a resolution being issued--and we already have a long list of UN resolutions--is, as I said in my speech to the Security Council, to create a framework for the establishment of peace in the south and restore it to its owners, something which will also facilitate a solution to the Lebanese issue.

It pleases me to announce that the United Nations has begun to take certain measures. Naturally, I cannot divulge details, but I can say that Assistant UN Secretary General Brian Urquhart will arrive in Beirut on 7 April. I believe, or I hope, that some measures will have been taken before then.

[Question] What is future of UN Security Council Resolution 425?

[Answer] One of the positive aspects of the Security Council chairman's declaration was that it referred to Resolution 425. [Words indistinct] the declaration reaffirmed Resolution 425, whose entire text was inserted into the declaration so that there will be no room for any ambiguity or doubt regarding this resolution.

[Question] Are you optimistic that the Security Council chairman's statement will [words indistinct] the situation in Lebanon?

[Answer] Let us be realistic--neither optimistic nor pessimistic. The statement was in itself a victory. However, a statement remains a statement, and practical measures are practical measures. We did not ask for this statement. It was asked for by the secretary general and the states participating in the UN forces. Therefore, we have no interest in belittling the role that was played by the states participating in the UN forces, a role which proved effective during the first confrontation between the two superpowers at the Security Council over the Middle East problem. Therefore, it is better not to engage ourselves in speculation. I cannot give any more details before I meet the president and familiarize him with the situation. [end recording]

HADDAD DELIVERS SPEECH ON 'GOOD FENCE' ANNIVERSARY

NC221157 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 1000 GMT 22 Mar 81

[Text] I will start the good news from the good fence. The older the wine is, the better it gets; this applies to the good fence whose fifth anniversary we celebrated today--Lebanese and Israelis alike. The Israeli chief of staff, Gen Rafa'el Eytan; the leader of free Lebanon, Maj Sa'd Haddad; the commander of Israel's northern area, Gen Avigdor Bengal and a host of military and civilian Lebanese and Israeli leaders attended the celebration. A multitude of thousands, including schoolchildren also attended.

Maj Sa'd Haddad delivered a speech in which he thanked Israel and its people for the humanitarian services they are giving to the free Lebanese, as well as other kinds of aid--not least of all military aid.

Major Haddad declared that free Lebanon will confront the new Syrian plot represented by sending the so-called Lebanese Army in order to liquidate free Lebanon and close the lifelines represented by the 'good fence' gateways. Haddad said: We will not allow the plot to take place. We are strong enough and we are befriending the biggest power in the Middle East.

Haddad added that the aim to liquidate us is apparently the bill which is due for payment by this conspiratorial agent regime which is looking forward to handing Lebanon to the Syrians prior to the end of its accursed term of office. Haddad further said: Should free Lebanon fall--and this will never come to pass--then all of Lebanon will fall under the jackboot of occupation, and the liberated areas in the north will not be able to retain their freedom in the face of a concerted Syrian attack which will be the ultimate result of this sneaky plan.

Major Haddad concluded by saying: We will not throw down our arms and we will proceed forward--thanks to the awareness of the free and dignified Lebanese--until Lebanon is liberated, in the long run, up to its northern borders.

HADDAD ON AT-TIRI INCIDENT, AL-ASAD SPEECH

NC250750 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0600 GMT 25 Mar 81

[25 March statement by free Lebanon commander Major Sa'd Haddad--read by announcer]

[Text] We strongly denounce the attempt by the UNIFIL command and some hireling quarters to put the blame for the blowing up of a house in At-Tiri on our forces. This is because the houseowner is from the elements who work with and are armed by us. It is better for the UNIFIL to step up its alert to stop the activity of the terrorists who are presently in its areas of operations and who are infiltrating into our area to terrorize our peaceful citizens.

Second, [Syrian President] Hafiz al-Asad spoke for several hours yesterday. I did not want to waste my time by listening to his speech. However, there is no doubt that the entire speech was directed against Jordan.

No matter what, we challenge Al-Asad to provoke Jordan militarily so that he may settle the issue and cut down on his rambling speeches. We also ask him to allow terrorist operations to be staged from Syria [against Israel] before he demands such a thing from Jordan or others. We also ask him to reduce the restrictions imposed on the terrorists inside Syria and to allow them at least to appear in military uniform. We also ask Al-Asad to stop hiding behind the UN forces by pulling these forces away from his border with Israel.

Third, to those who are stabbing us and who support the disptach of the army to fight us, I tell them that we will not relinquish one iota of Lebanon. Regardless of the barking of the spiteful, no one will enter free Lebanon before the last occupying Syrian soldier leaves Lebanon. I advise the responsible officials to cut down on their talk so they will not maliciously harm others. If they talk about an army, let them remember that no army will remain except the free Lebanon army, which is working with all honesty, sacrifice and faith in Lebanon. The free Lebanon army has given the chance to every honest Lebanese soldier to join its ranks because it is the army of all honest Lebanese.

U.S. CITIZEN FROM HIJACKED JET HELD FOR INTERPOL

NC241540 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 24 Mar 81

[Text] In Damascus a U.S. citizen who was aboard the hijacked Pakistani airliner has been detained to be handed over to Interpol on charges of smuggling narcotics. Interpol sources said that the injured [al-jarih] U.S. citizen, who was put up in a Damascus hotel following the release of the Pakistani airliner passengers, was traveling on a false identity card. He was put in a Damascus prison today at the request of Interpol preparatory to handing him over.

SOVIET MINISTER ARRIVES IN DAMASCUS 23 MAR

JN231652 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 23 Mar 81

[Text] The Soviet minister of heavy machine industry [title as heard] and his delegation arrived in Damascus this afternoon on an official visit of several days to Syria. He was received at Damascus International Airport by Maj Gen Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the army and the armed forces and minister of defense, and Maj Gen 'Awwad Bagh, deputy defense minister.

SYRIAN, SOVIET HEALTH OFFICIALS BEGIN TALKS 23 MAR

JN232203 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 23 Mar 81

[Text] Damascus--Official talks on health began this evening between the Syrian side headed by Syrian Health Minister Dr Ghasub ar-Rifa'i and the Soviet side headed by the minister of health of the Azerbaijan SSR. The two ministers exchanged speeches on the importance of developing relations in health between the two countries. They also reviewed the health situation.

VOICE OF EGYPT URGES SUDANESE TO CONFRONT REGIME

JN232125 Damascus Voice of Arab Egypt in Arabic 1935 GMT 23 Mar 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Dear brothers in Egypt: The decision of the Sudanese regime to restore diplomatic relations with the As-Sadat regime is no surprise to anybody. It is not the result of a random policy. It is a decision which expresses a basic part of implementing the U.S. imperialist policy in the Arab region.

The Numayri regime prepared the atmosphere for that step; also taking a number of measures to implement it. Lately the voice of solidarity arose between the As-Sadat and the Sudanese regimes as open preparation for announcing Numayri's decision. The false concern showed by the As-Sadat regime for the security of Sudan was just an imaginary excuse to cause the Sudanese regime's fall into the lap of U.S. imperialism. They fabricated imaginary danger against Sudan when they were really making the real danger inside Sudan. They fabricated the imaginary danger in order to establish U.S. military bases on Sudanese soil as on Egypt's land and so the whole of the Nile Valley would be under imperialist control and influence.

Many indicators prove that Numayri's regime is pursuing the line of the As-Sadat regime. The mask has fallen exposing the faces. The issue is no longer in the realm of speculation, deduction or analysis. There is no need to define the identity of Numayri's regime. The Arab citizens have enough incriminating proof to say that this regime has been following the Camp David trend for a long time. However, its role, as defined by the U.S. imperialist plan, has been highlighted at this stage.

All of this demands confrontation from the Arab liberation forces inside and outside Sudan and Egypt against those dying regimes which have followed the Camp David line. They must be besieged officially and by the people so the voice of the Arab people will be maintained as the voice of the future and the voice of the Arab revolution will remain dominant.

BEGIN REVIEWS ISSUES AT COMMITTEE SESSION

TA251122 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 25 Mar 81

[Text] Prime Minister and Defense Minister Menahem Begin was today the guest of the Knesset Security and Foreign Affairs Committee. Shim'on Schiffer reports from the Knesset:

The escalation of terrorist activities in the Gaza Strip, the relations between Israel and Major Haddad, the Egyptian proposals on the autonomy issue and the future of the airfields that Israel will evacuate upon the completion of the last stage of the withdrawal from the Sinai were some of the issues raised at the committee's meeting.

Knesset members Arens, Rom, Lynn, Ben-Me'ir and Halevi claimed that Egypt was violating the peace treaty by extending support to the PLO and allowing this organization to maintain offices in Al-'Arish and Cairo. Sabotage activities have recently increased by 50 percent in the Gaza Strip compared with the same period last year, the Knesset members pointed out.

The prime minister replied that he took a serious view of this issue and the entire issue was discussed with the Egyptians at the military joint committee.

MK Lynn asked Menahem Begin to issue an unambiguous statement in favor of Major Haddad. He said that Israel should announce that it would not decrease its support for the Christians of free Lebanon and conquered Lebanon. The prime minister said the Jewish people had a supreme moral obligation to protect the Christians in Lebanon and prevent their annihilation. We will provide them the full assistance they will need under the circumstances, the prime minister added, and went on to say that Israel could not issue orders to Major Haddad because he represented an independent entity.

Knesset members Rabin, Shoval and Toledano wanted to hear details about the report that Israel would be soon publishing a white paper on the issue of autonomy. According to the same report, Egypt has recently proposed that Israel recognize the national guidance committeee in the territories as the supreme Palestinian institution which will be handed over the administrative authority of the autonomy.

Menahem Begin said that the report was utterly false. Israel was the only one that provided a specific plan for the establishment of the autonomy. Egypt had never come up with the proposal reported by Israeli television last night.

Mr Menahem Savidor asked whether it was possible that the airfields that Israel will evacuate in the Sinai would be used by the Americans. The prime minister confirmed that proposals to that effect had been raised but the Egyptians objected to them. Menahem Begin refused to elaborate beyond that.

EYTAN SPEAKS ON SOUTHERN LEBANON SITUATION

TA241757 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 24 Mar 81

[Text] Chief of staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan this evening spoke at Bet Hahayal in Tel Aviv before hundreds of IDF veteran senior officers. Eytan spoke for over 1 hour at the annual convention of Tzevet, the organization of IDF veteran senior officers. Among other things, the chief of staff referred to the situation in southern Lebanon. Tzahi Noga brings some of Eytan's remarks:

[Begin recording] [Eytan] The region of southern Lebanon is constantly in the news and I do not feel more pressured than before about our involvement there. The interest of the State of Israel there is supreme and it should guide our actions--and this is what we do. Our supreme interest is not to allow the terrorists to return to the [security] fence and that whoever turned to us, to our country, for help--and we have helped him and are continuing to help him to survive in the physical sense--lest at any time it be said about us: when it felt like it, Israel helped them and when it did not feel like it Israel left them and all of them were slaughtered.

We are waging a war against the terrorists everywhere. Lebanon serves as an arena because the bases, camps, commands and infrastructure of all the terrorists are located there--Lebanon serves as the arena. Within this arena lives a nation that wants to cooperate with the State of Israel. Thanks to the State of Israel this nation continues to survive. We will continue to fulfill this interest through operations against the terrorists anywhere we like, anytime we like and with whatever we like. We will continue to [word indistinct] with whoever wants to cooperate with us and whether he survives or perishes is up to us. [end recording]

DAVAR REPORTS POSSIBILITY OF ARMS SALES TO U.S.

TA250641 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 25 Mar 81 p 1

[By Washington correspondent Mordekhay Barkay]

[Text] Mortars, thermal sleeves for tank guns, light weapons--including assault rifles--and some types of ammuntion are among the products of the Israeli military industry for whose purchase the United States is ready to conduct negotiations, this reporter has learned from a reliable U.S. source.

Talks on a major expansion of Israeli defense exports to the United States were held by Defense Ministry Director General Moshe Ma'ayan and Finance Ministry Director General 'Ezra Sadan (Ma'ayan remained in the United States in order to take part in the talks to be held by Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Tzipori in Washington at the end of the week).

U.S. sources close to the "state levels" in the Pentagon told this reporter that the accelerated armament momentum now underway in the U.S. armed forces, in concert with the application of the Reagan administration's global foreign policy, is a "golden opportunity" for Israel. These sources stress that there is no shortage of industrial military technology in the United States but that the Pentagon is interested in the Israeli products because they are reliable and because the development of an assembly line in the United States is a lengthy and sometimes unprofitable process. At the same time, these sources underscore that the orders that may be received will be an achievement only if Israel can pass muster regarding quality, supply dates and the contacts with the complex U.S. bureaucracy. In particular, these circles say, it is difficult to imagine Israeli defense exports to the United States without the Israeli military industries concerned opening offices in Washington.

It should be noted that the U.S. market was until not long ago closed to the Israeli (and foreign generally) defense industry because of the "buy American" law which applies to all federal bodies. However, the 1979 memorandum of agreement between Israel and the United States contained two articles: one on cooperation in research and development; the other on cooperation in production and sales.

This memorandum opened possibilities for Israel, but these have so far been exploited only in very limited fashion. Now the U.S. administration is showing greater readiness to purchase military products from Israel, both because of the U.S. forces' accelerated buildup and in order to help Israel cope with the economic burden of its own purchases.

It is worth bearing in mind that the U.S.market has also been opened to other friendly countries. Recently, the United States has purchased in Europe not only such items as large quantities of training ammunition, but also advanced weapons systems such as anti-aircraft missiles and the British Harrier vertical lift-off interceptor and attack plane.

TZIPORI COMMENTS ON GOLAN HEIGHTS 'INCITEMENT'

TA240947 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 24 Mar 81 p 3

[By Mati Golan]

[Excerpt] "For about 2 years incitement activities have been conducted in order to prevent closer relations between the local Druze population and Israel," Deputy Defense Minister Mr Mordekhay Tzipori said yesterday in reply to a draft motion for the agenda [in the Knesset] on that issue by MK Shafiq As'ad. Tzipori added that "the Golan Heights governor met with the inciters and urged them earnestly to stop speaking against Israel in a hostile and inflammatory manner; he did this with great restraint," Mr Tzipori said.

On the affair of the ID cards, Tzipori said that at the beginning there had been Druze who requested the documents "but after a campaign of threats, this wave of requests died down." In any event, the deputy minister concluded, "only those who request an ID card freely are given it."

ARMAMENTS AUTHORITY MANUFACTURING CLUSTER BOMBS

TA221948 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 22 Mar 81

[Text] For more than 10 years, Refa'el , the armaments development authority, has been manufacturing cluster bombs including antipersonnel bomblets [pitzetzonot]. This was revealed for the first time tonight in a news conference held in Tel Aviv by top Refa'el officials.

Correspondent 'Amiram Nir reported that the production of these bombs began during the war of attrition, when the United States refused to supply the IDF with similar bombs. Upon detonation, the Israeli cluster bombs spread miniature grenades. Thus, the grenades can cover a wide range.

It was also reported at the news conference that the cost of developing these bombs at the armaments development authority is lower by several hundred percent [phrase as heard] than the cost of developing similar arms systems in other countries.

NEW UNDERGROUND FUEL RESERVOIR TO BE PUT TO USE

TA241926 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 24 Mar 81

[Text] In the center of the country a new underground fuel reservoir will soon be put into operation, one of three such reservoirs that are planned. Each one will hold 300,000 to 500,000 cubic meters of oil, thus increasing Israel's refined oil reserves by about 1.3 million tons. A subcommittee of the Knesset's energy committee reported these details and proposed that the government examine the refined oil reserves each year. The subcommittee is also proposing that detailed plans be prepared for periods of shortage in this sphere.

KNESSET COMMITTEE DECIDES ON SHORT MAY SESSION

TA241600 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 24 Mar 81

[Text] The Knesset's house committee has decided that the Knesset will convene for a summer session after the passover recess. Because of the elections, this session will last only 2 weeks, until 24 May. The coalition representatives and SHINUY voted in favor of the short summer session, while the Alignment and Hadash voted against it. Our correspondent notes that this decision overturns the decision by the Knesset's presidium, by which the Knesset would go into recess on 5 April and not reconvene until after the elections.

ALIGNMENT POLL SHOWS IT WILL WIN 45 SEATS

TA251012 Tel Aviv HA'OLAM HAZE in Hebrew 25 Mar 81 p 39

[Text] The Alignment has received the results of a secret public opinion poll--the largest, in terms of the number of persons who took part in the representative sample, ever conducted in Israel--and has decided to keep the results to itself. According to this poll, the Alignment will win about 45 Knesset seats, the Likud about 35, Moshe Dayan's party about 10 and the NRP 11 or 12 seats.

POST REPORTS ON DAYAN'S INTENTIONS, PARTY

17 Mar Report

TA171031 Jerusalem POST in English 17 Mar 81 p 1

[By political correspondent Sara Honig]

[Text] Tel Aviv--MK Moshe Dayan said yesterday that he is "willing and ready to run" at the head of a yet-to-be-formed party, on the basis of the platform emerging from discussions with his political associates.

This was Dayan's strongest confirmation yet of reports that he is inclined to throw his hat into the ring once more. His one reservation was that he must wait and see who else will join his new political venture.

"Too many people are withholding their final answer. If the refusals are many, I might decide to stay home," he told a session of the Bama political discussion forum here last night.

After a long debate on the platform of the party-in-the-making, Dayan took the floor and said that "from what is evident of the platform so far, I feel that I am ready to enter the race and set up the party," which he suggested would be called the "Independent List."

"We must work out the full platform and see if we can live with it. If I find elements that I cannot agree to, I will not join. So far the platform is acceptable, but I want to see who the other people on the list will be."

On Sunday Dayan flies to Europe and will return on April 2, at which time he is expected to make his official announcement.

Concerning Jerusalem, Dayan proposed that the platform say that while it holds that "Jerusalem permanent status is as determined by the Knesset, Jordan may still--under UN Resolution 242--demand in the peace negotiations, with no preconditions, sovereignty over east Jerusalem."

Dayan also said that "if a Labor government wants to cede any part of Judaea and Samaria to Arab rule, I will not support it. The same goes for a Likud government which continues the autonomy talks in the present fashion."

23 Mar Report

TA230956 Jerusalem POST in English 23 Mar 81 pp 1, 2

[By political correspondent Sara Honig]

[Text] Tel Aviv--Moshe Dayan is getting ready to launch his new party without former Finance Minister Yiga'el Hurvitz and possibly with an eye to thereby attracting another defector from the Likud government--former Defence Minister 'Ezer Weizman.

In all likelihood the party will not adopt the name "Independent List," but will be called either the renewal or revival party, the Jerusalem POST was told yesterday.

The POST had learned yesterday that after Dayan failed to narrow the gap between himself and Hurvitz on Friday, he telephoned several of his new associates over the weekend and inquired about their attitude to the venture should Hurvitz stay out. Dayan made it clear that he does not see Hurvitz's participation in the list as essential.

Sources close to Dayan recently added that the feeling is that once Hurvitz is no longer under consideration, the door would be open for Weizman to join the group. The former defence minister had been interested in a political partnership with Dayan and had even competed with RAFI in its courtship of Dayan, the source noted. However, RAFI seemed to have prevailed and Hurvitz's hawkishness and the bitter disagreements that he and Weizman had had over the defence budget, had made it impossible for Weizman to join any party in which Hurvitz was a leading member.

The scenario now expected by some RAFI members is that after Dayan returns to Israel from his Mediterranean cruise and makes his expected April 2 announcement about the formation of the new party, Weizman would join it if Hurvitz were not a member at that time.

Relations between Hurvitz and Dayan began to sour on several points. They failed to reach agreement on several controversial articles in the party platform, especially the Dayan concept of unilateral autonomy, which Hurvitz considers a prelude to a Palestinian state. The Hurvitz camp is also displeased with a Dayan compromise suggestion on Jerusalem. Dayan now suggests thatthe platform plank state that the party is resolutely behind the Knesset law on Jerusalem as an integral part of Israel, but that a footnote include his own proposal to the effect that Jordan will have the right to demand sovereignty of east Jerusalem in future negotiations.

Other points of contention include Dayan's insistence on having former Labor MK Mordekhay Ben-Porat in the party's number two slot, and his demand that RAFI cease to exist as an independent bloc within the party. Ben-Porat will reportedly be willing to move back on the slate of candidates for a "superstar" such as Weizman or Labor's Yitzhaq Rabin.

RAFI sources said there is increasing opposition to entering Dayan's new party at this point and many colleagues have apparently accused him of being "hard-hearted" in his readiness to dump Hurvitz particularly since one of the latter's reasons for quitting the government had been to launch the new party with Dayan.

But RAFI does not speak with a united voice, and its executive chairman Zalman Shoval, remains firm in his backing of Dayan. He told the POST yesterday that he is sure the difficulties between Dayan and Hurvitz will be ironed out and accused the "dirty tricks department" of another party of fomenting the trouble. To his mind the new party is being formed "to prevent the ceding of any party of Judaea and Samaria to foreign rule and this right-of-centre premise is enough of a common denominator between them."

Sources close to Dayan and to the Labor Party both said yesterday that they were trying to woo former police Inspector-General Herzl Shafir into their ranks. Shafir has heightened speculation by taking part in the last two Bama discussions, which is generally regarded as Dayan's political springboard.

However, Labor Party sources reported that they too have been holding talks with Shafir and that they are close to finalizing an agreement with him, whereby he would join Labor. Shafir's older brother, Avraham Shechterman, is chairman of Herut's central committee.

ARAB LIST TO RUN IN 10TH KNESSET ELECTIONS

TA161856 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1845 GMT 16 Mar 81

[Text] Nazareth, 16 Mar--The Arab list, which was previously led by Knesset members Sayf ad-Din (Zuabi) and Hamad Abu Rabi'a, who was recently murdered, has decided to run in the elections for the 10th Knesset. Former Knesset Member Sayf ad-Din (Zuabi) told the ITIM correspondent that he will not be among the candidates for the Knesset but will back the list and will be the moving force behind it in the elections. He is now contacting various elements, mostly university graduates, and after final agreement is reached, their names will be published. Mr (Zuabi) added that his list will work for the well-being of the Arab citizens and will attempt to give its support to the next government, which will be led by the Alignment.

PLO STEPS UP RECRUITMENT OF ISRAELI ARABS

TA150951 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 15 Mar 81 p 2

[By Yo'el Dar]

[Text] PLO agents abroad have recently accelerated their efforts to recuit Israeli Arab citizens for subversive activity within the green line. In several instances, PLO agents have succeeded in influencing young Arabs, while in other cases they failed, with the candidates rejecting their offers.

It has been learned from a reliable source that the most concerted effort was made a few months ago in Saudi Arabia. PLO agents circulated among some of the Israeli pilgrims, suggesting that they enlist in the organizations. According to one source, an unknown number (in all events a very small number relative to the number of pilgrims) acceded to the suggestions and agreed to continue to collaborate with the PLO upon their return to Israel. Among those who acceded were young persons known as "penitents" [hozrim bitshuva] who, after their return to Israel, managed to get friends of theirs, some of who had criminal records, to place themselves at the PLO's disposal.

According to the orders they were given, the new recruits were to maintain contact with persons in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip. They were also asked to obtain arms and sabotage material by any and all means, including purchase from underworld figures. The objective was to carry out attacks inside the green line.

The PLO agents are trying to attain two goals simultaneously: to upset routine life through Israeli Arabs--whose apprehension will exacerbate the relations between Jews and Arabs, a state of affairs in which the PLO is interested; and they are also taking into account that it is easier for Israeli Arabs to travel inside Israel without arousing suspicion, and if they are caught by the security forces, the punishments meted out to them following their conviction will be relatively light because they are Israeli citizens.

All those who agreed to enlist come from established families; their motives are not economic but ideological or zealous-religious. It is not clear whether the Israeli authorities will continue to grant exit permits virtually without restriction to Muslims who wish to go to Mecca, as has been the case in recent years. This time the conditions may be toughened, with a larger number being turned down than in the past.

ALGERIA

PRESIDENT BENDJEDID MEETS WITH SOVIET ENVOY

LD251208 Algiers APS in English 1100 GMT 25 Mar 81

[Text] Algiers, 25 Mar (APS)--President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the FLN party received Tuesday afternoon Mr Sharaf R. Rashidov, deputy member of the Soviet Communist Party C.C. Politburo. Mr Sliman Hoffmann, member of the Central Committee and president of the FLN external relations, and the USSR ambassador attended the audience.

SOVIET TRADE UNION DELEGATION VISITS BECHAR

LD231441 Algiers El MOUDJAHID in French 16 Mar 81 p 2

[Text] Bechar--At the invitation of the Health Workers National Federation Coordination Bureau of Bechar Province, a Soviet trade union delegation visited Bechar from 13 through 15 March. The delegation included Stanislaw Kulagin, Oktyabr Barinova and Valeriy Zemushin, respectively deputy chairman of the Soviet Union Health Workers National Federation Central Committee and chairman of the (Zemarocira) (Moscow) Region Central Committee.[sentence as published]

During its visit, the Soviet delegation, which was accompanied by M'Mhamed Charat, Health Workers National Federation secretary general, visited some medical centers, a socialist village, an ancillary medical school and the premises of the regional board for the prevention of disease at Hechar, Abadla and Taghit. Discussions with Bechar trade unionists and members of the medical profession were also organized. Both sides recounted their experiences in the medical and trade union spheres.

Yesterday the Soviet delegation left Bechar for Algiers.

APS REPORTS MAURITANIAN PLOTTERS' SENTENCES

LD241632 Algiers APS in English 1534 GMT 24 Mar 81

[Text] Nouckchott, 24 Mar (APS)--The Mauritanian special justice court sentenced to death the heads of the conspirators involved in the Moroccan directed attempt to destabilize the Mauritanian regime. The trial which secretly started Saturday behind doors in the Djreida military base, fifteen kilometers from Nouakchott, ended today with this "logical sentence--given the seriousness of the crimes the conspirators made themselves responsible of."

Ex-Leiutenant-Colonels Bah and Ahmed Salem Ould Sidi have been sentenced to death together with ex-Lieutenant Niang Mustapha and reserve Lieutenant Doudou Seck on the indictment of high treason, desertion, intelligence with the enemy and voluntary homicide.

The court also pronounced five life hard labour sentences. It is said that the ten lawyers who defended the plotters are going to present a pardon request to the head of state, Colonel Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala.

Ex-Leiutenant [Colonels] Abdul Kader Bah and Ahmed Salim had already been sentenced in their absences to respectively to death and twenty years hard labour.

LIBYA

ARAB LEAGUE CALLED ON TO EXPEL SUDAN REGIME

LD251304 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 25 Mar 81

[Text] The Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah submitted a memorandum to the ordinary session of the Council of the Arab League, currently being held in Tunis at the foreign minister level, calling for the expulsion of the Sudanese regime from the Arab League because it restored diplomatic relations with the Egyptian regime. This is considered a violation of the resolutions of the Badhdad summit conference and--because of the Sudanese regime's allying itself with the United States and granting it military bases on Sudan's territory--it is a matter which exposes the Arab nation and its freedom to danger.

RADIO REPORTS SUDANESE OPPOSITION STATEMENT

LD241450 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 24 Mar 81

[Text] The Sudanese opposition reported that Numayri has unveiled his true face and has shown it with complete arrogance and insolence as a lackey of the American camp. He even kneels humbly in front of fallen agents such as As-Sadat. In a press statement issued yesterday in London, the Sudanese opposition pointed out that Numayri often denied any relationship with colonialism and pretended to sever relations with the Egyptian president while at the same time he indulged and threw himself in the lap of colonialism. Arab monies and assistance have evaporated into the quagmires of his entourage while the Sudanese people became more miserable, hungrier and more destitute, with lines stretching for miles to buy a loaf of bread or a pinch of sugar.

In its statement, the Sudanese opposition said the way the Sudanese people are living is not strange; there is no economy in the Sudan. Numayri's authority is that of a despot indulging in problems which are not the concern of the Sudanese citizen. The statement stressed that there is no solution other than the overthrow of this rotten regime which spins rumors to find a cover to embrace the American forces on Sudanese territory.

In its statement the Sudanese opposition reviewed the justifications offered by Numayri to restore relations with the regime of the Egyptian president and to throw himself into the lap of American colonialism. In this respect it called on the Arab nation to kick this hypocrite out of its ranks to join all the fallen hypocrites and Zionists.

MAURITANIA

AFP REPORTS ON SITUATION AFTER COUP ATTEMPT

AB242116 Paris AFP in French 1533 GMT 24 Mar 81

[Text] Nouakchott, 24 Mar (AFP)--Two former lieutenant colonels in the Mauritanian Army--Abdel Kader and Sakem Ould Sidi--were sentenced to death on Tuesday in Nouakchott for being ringleaders of the 16 March abortive coup d'etat in that country.

Former Lieutenants Moustapha Niang and Mohamed Doudou Seck were also sentenced to death for taking part in the plot, while five other persons were sentenced to life in prison with hard labor.

Former Lt Col Abdel Kader had been sentenced to death in absentia in November 1980 for being one of the founders of the Alliance for a Democratic Mauritania (ADM). Former Lt Col Salem Ould Sidi had been sentenced to 20 years in prison for being a member of the ADM. Former Lieutenant Niang had been sentenced to death on 23 March 1981 for joining the Free Officers Front in Morocco, after deserting from the Mauritanian Army.

Many arrests are presently being made in Mauritania to uncover possible accomplices in the attempted coup, according to diplomatic sources in Dakar. The same sources affirm that some Antonov-12 planes from the Algerian Army made several round trips last week between Algiers and E-N-Duadhibou, the economic capital of Mauritania, on the border of Western Sahara, which is also the terminal for the Zouirat iron mines. Only one round trip was made to Nouakchott, but the type of plane used was unknown, according to the same sources.

Dakar--According to other reports from Rosso, a Senegalese town near the Mauritanian border, the Algerian plane was delivering anti-aircraft guns and technicians who are specialists in handling those weapons.

A curfew is still in effect in the capital from 1900 to 0600 and as of Tuesday airports were still closed to traffic, it was learned from Nouakchott. Only one foreign civilian plane, which came Saturday to take the Moroccan Embassy staff to Rabat, was allowed to land at the Nouakchott airport. The departure of the embassy staff followed the breaking of diplomatic relations between Mauritania and Morocco.

Airports were reopened on Monday for internal flights. Only a few authorized persons were permitted to leave the country for medical reasons and some trucks were allowed to cross the border in order to bring food and goods into Mauritania. In Nouakchott, however, food and goods have become difficult to obtain, sources in Rosso said.

MOROCCO

MERCENARY ATTACK SAID TO BE FROM MAURITANIA

LD242156 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 24 Mar 81

[Text] The Guelta Zemmur area was the target of an attack by bands of mercenaries, estimated at four columns.

Earlier, a reconnaissance of the Royal Air Force had been spotting suspicious movements in northeast Mauritania since 21 March. It is worth noting that his majesty's government previously had denounced the malicious campaign launched by the Mauritanian rulers against Morocco and explained the truth of this campaign, which, in fact, has a broader base than Mauritania, fitting the framework of a conspiracy whose aim is to destabilize conditions in the entire area. Today events confirm beyond any shadow of doubt the truth in what we announced. These events expose the truth of the conspiracy.

Morocco, which will, at this stage, confine itself to repelling all attacks directed against its national territory, reserves the right to exercise the legitimate defense of its established rights and place the responsibility for all the consequences of their irresponsible behavior upon the Mauritanian rulers.

In this connection, his majesty's government has cabled the minister of state in charge of foreign affairs and cooperation, who is currently in Tunis attending the meeting of the Arab League foreign ministers, and conveyed to him the following information:

On Tuesday, 24 March, at 0300, the Guelta Zemmur area, which lies near the Moroccan-Mauritanian border, was the target of an attack by bands whose number is estimated at 3,000 mercenaries. The Royal Armed Forces immediately answered this attack.

There is no doubt that the mercenaries set off from Mauritanian soil to which their remnants will proceed when they flee the battlefield. It is worth noting in this connection that:

1. Glancing at a map will be enough to confirm that the mercenaries did not set off from Tindoug, as they used to do in the past, because this town is very far from the battelfields.
2. Our air reconnaissance between 21 and 22 March enabled us to establish the presence of important concentrations at Ain Ben Tali, which lies in Mauritanian territory. However, those concentrations were proceeding in a westerly direction.
3. On 23 March 1981 it was observed that the same mercenary forces, after splitting up into several groups, were seen north, northwest and northeast of Bir Mogrein--also a village in Mauritanian territory.

This was the text of the cable which was sent to the minister of state in charge of foreign affairs and cooperation, who is in Tunis. We point out that the mercenaries suffered heavy losses in men and equipment.

SUDAN

MUBARAK SAYS ARAB LEAGUE ASKED TO EXPEL LIBYA

JN241529 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 24 Mar 81

[Text] Khartoum, 24 Mar (SUNA)--Sudan has proposed to the Arab League Council that Libya be expelled from the Arab League. This proposal is based not on imaginary claims, as the Libyan regime is doing, but on confirmed facts, and comes as a result of the fact that the Libyan regime has bases for a foreign state--namely, the Soviet Union--which is supplying Israel with manpower, something that contradicts Article 18 of the Arab League Charter. Sudan has also requested the Arab League to dispatch a team to inspect both Sudan and Libya to determine the whereabouts of the foreign military bases.

This came in a statement Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak, minister of state for foreign affairs, made to SUNA. Mubarak asserted that the Libyan regime continues its feverish campaigns and rancorous attacks against Sudan. He added that the Libyan regime has fabricated a new lie by claiming that Sudan has allowed the United States to build military bases in Sudan. The Libyan regime has gone too far, to the extent that it has asked the current session of the Arab League Council to expel Sudan from the Arab League, supporting this request with its lies about the alleged military bases and the exchange of ambassadors between Cairo and Khartoum.

Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak stressed that Sudan has examined the Libyan regime's practices and grave ideas, which are tearing the united Arab body, undermining the Arab League and fragmenting and moving the Arab powers into opposite directions, and which do not serve the Arab cause or the Arab nation and will only divide and weaken the Arabs. Mubarak said that it is high time that the Arab League faces the Libyan charges and frank accusations against the Arab League Charter. He added that it is also high time that we face the Libyan regime's continued tampering with the Arab nation's fates and causes.

ETHIOPIA

ERITREAN LEADER ON LIBERATION FRONTS' DIFFERENCES

JN231105 Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic 21 Mar 81 pp 32, 33

[Correspondent As-'Ad Haydar interview in Beirut with Al-Amin Mohamed, official in charge of foreign relations in the Eritrean People's Liberation Front--date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Last summer armed clashes ensued between the Eritrean People's Liberation Front [EPLF] and the Eritran Liberation Front-Revolutionary Council [ELF-RC]. What was the scope of these battles and have they stopped?

[Answer] Currently there are no battles. Speciafically, they came to a halt on 17 November 1980. We managed to achieve a cease-fire. We also formed a committee to discuss the causes of the last outbreak and to put an end to it. Consequently, the committee will prepare for a meeting of the joint supreme political leadership, which consists of three EPLF members and three ELF-RC members, to discuss the outcome of the committee's work. We are hopeful that the leadership will manage to avert any more bloodshed, for our people have had enough during their liberation struggle.

[Question] But what are the causes of these clashes?

[Answer] The Eritrean differences are quite old. They have existed ever since the inception of the revolution. So many attempts were made to solve these differences, but they have manifested themselves clearly in the Eritrean arena since the military regime in Ethiopia came to power in 1975.

The principal difference is that of our positions toward the Ethiopian regime. So far we still have reservations toward the Mengistu regime. The ELF-RC considers this regime progressive and democratic and is prepared to hold negotiatons with it without any justification for its action.

We, however, believe that if the Ethiopian regime is progressive, it must adopt an open stand on the Eritrean national issue regardless of this regime's domestic accomplishments.

The other differences revolve around the foreign interventions in Eritrea. The ELF-RC refuses to admit the presence of a Soviet intervention, whereas we say that there is a Soviet intervention, though this intervention has recently and currently diminished. They still refuse to admit this intervention.

Also, we have divergent views on the question of the Eritrean revolution's military strategy. We believe in a gradual liberation strategy. In other words, we want to liberate a specific geographical location, consolidate our positions there and then move to another part in our homeland to liberate it. Events have proved the soundness of this strategy.

The ELF-RC members, however, believe in the strategy of proliferation in the various Eritrean areas without centering on the strategic positions.

Furthermore, there are other differences that revolve around the method of mobilizing the Eritrean people. We believe that all the masses must be mobilized and armed so that we can marshal all energies toward the struggle against the Ethiopian enemy, because the masses, in our opinion, are the ones who fight and who do not permit any Ethiopian economic or military presence.

[Question] Unity talks have for some time been taking place between ELF-RC and the Eritrean Liberation Front-People's Liberation Forces [ELF-PLF] headed by Othman Saleh Sabe. How do you stand on these talks?

[Answer] Our stand is as follows: If the ELF-RC achieves a positive result with Othman Sabe, we will bless the agreement. However, the October agreement between the EPLF and the ELF-RC does not recognize the ELF-PLF as a political force in the Eritrean arena. It is true that Othman Sabe enjoys a diplomatic impact abroad which contributes to presenting well the Eritrean issue, but he has a political or military presence inside Eritrea. Even the Bani 'Amir tribes whom he represents are divided and are not fully represented by Sabe. The majority of these tribes have joined Arab parties.

[Question] What is the current military situation of the Ethiopians?

[Answer] Currently, it is calm. There are no major battles with the Ethiopian enemy. The Ethiopian enemy is controlling the towns except for Nacfa. We control the roads and countryside. We are proud of our experiment in liberated Nacfa and we continue to consolidate its liberation.

[Question] As is known, the ELF-RC has relations with the Soviet Union. Ahmad Mohamed Nasser has twice visited Moscow. How are your relations with Moscow?

[Answer] We have direct contacts with the Soviets. We have sent them a draft on the seven-point plan, but so far we have not received any reply. Also, we have not visited Moscow to date. We have direct contacts with their ambassadors but we have not yet been invited to visit Moscow. Nevertheless, if we receive an invitation, we will visit Moscow to hold talks with Soviet officials. We consider the recession of the Soviet military presence in the war against the Eritrean revolution as a positive stand on the part of the Soviets.

We have refused and continue to refuse any readymade solution to the Eritrean problem. Although we still are certain that our people, who have been struggling for 20 years, continue to believe in attaining their independence, we proposed the draft referendum which includes three options--independence, federation or regional autonomy within the Ethiopian state. We are committed to what we have proposed and we will accept the decision of the Eritrean people.

[Question] How do you assess your relations with Sudan, particularly following the improvement in Sudanese-Ethiopian relations?

[Answer] Our relations are still normal. Although we have reservations about the recent developments in Sudanese-Ethiopian relations, we are not against any Sudanese-Ethiopian rapprochement. We, however, do not accept that these relations be at the expense of the Eritrean issue. Ethiopia is using its weight to neutralize Sudan in terms of the Eritrean issue, but we believe that this desire is difficult to achieve due to the historical Eritrean-Sudanese relations.

ERITREAN RADIO REPORTS ETHIOPIAN SAILORS JAILED

LD230014 (Clandestine) Voice of Broad Masses of Eritrea in Amharic 1600 GMT 22 Mar 81 EA

[Text] Persisting with its atrocities and various methods of suppressing the anti-Dergue rebellion in the Ethiopian Navy, the fascist Dergue imprisoned over 40 members of the Ethiopian Navy on 11 March 1981, after accusing them of having had connections with the former members of the Ethiopian Navy who peacefully surrendered to the Eritrean People's Liberation Front. According to a reliable source, the naval men were flown to Asmara.

KENYA

PRESIDENTS MOI, APTIDON MEET; SPEAK AT BANQUET

23 Mar Talks

LD241144 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 23 Mar 81 EA

[Excerpt] His Excellency President Daniel Arap Moi held high level talks with the visiting Djibouti president, Mr Hassan Gouled Aptidon, at State House, Nairobi, lasting 13 minutes.

Others at the talks on the Kenyan side were the vice president and minister for finance, Mr Mwai Kibaka; the minister for constitutional and home affairs, Mr Charles Njonjo; the two ministers of state in the presidents office, Mr Nicholas Biwott and G.G. Kariuki; the minister for foreign affairs, Dr Robert Ouka; commerce minister, Mr Eliud Mwamunga; tourism minister, Mr Elijah Mwangale; the minister for transport and communications, Mr Henry Kosgey; the minister for agriculture, Mr Kabeere Mbijiwe, and the attorney general, Mr James Boro Kabugu. There were also permanent secretaries and government officials on the Kenyan side.

The Djibouti team was led at the talks by President Aptidon and included several ministers and permanent secretaries accompanying the Djibouti head of state.

State Banquet

LD241140 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 24 Mar 81 EA

[Text] President Daniel Arap Moi has expressed his concern over the longstanding conflict between Somalia and her neighboring states and emphasized that peace was a precursor of creative regional development.

President Moi said this last night at a state banquet he hosted in honor of the visiting President Hassan Gouled Aptidon of Djibouti, at State House, Nairobi.

President Moi regretted that security and stability in the Horn of Africa had been undermined through conflicts between the Republic of Somalia and her neighboring state. His excellency said Kenya had offered the policy of goodneighborliness and warned that it was no longer tolerable for this region or part of the African Continent to be regarded as a theater in which major powers may put on rival military displays or make dramatic bids for local political influence.

President Moi said African leaders must ensure that no external agencies are permitted to engage in acts likely to create or encourage conflicts in Africa. He said eventual peace in the region must be maintained by making the Indian Ocean a zone of peace. President Moi said ignoring regional realities creates more problems and retards development efforts and urged all leaders to think in terms of modern large-scale techniques and possibilities.

Appealing for regional unity, President Moi said widespread African unity and self-reliance calls for cooperation with our neighbors. He emphasized the need for Africa to think in terms of pooling resources and sharing facilities in such areas as food production, education, communications, power generation, and environmental problems.

Replying, the Djibouti head of state condemned the buildup of sophisticated weapons, which deprives the people of the Horn of Africa of basic necessities.

MINISTER IMPLICATED IN MOI OVERTHROW PLOT

LD250016 Dar es Salaam in English to Central and Southern Africa 1600 GMT 24 Mar 81 EA

[Text] Nairobi--Capt Ricky Gitucha of the Kenyan Air Force, charged with plotting to overthrow President Daniel Arap Moi of Kenya, has said that his coup had some big names in it including that of Home Affairs Minister Charles Njonjo.

Captain Gitucha told the court that he had infiltrated the group by saying he could provide arms. The captain's statement gave no further details of the alleged involvement of Mr Njonjo, one of the most powerful men in the Kenyan government. Charged with Captain Gitucha are a prominent Nairobi businessman, Andrew Muthemba, and Dickson Muiruri.

TELEVISION PROGRAMS EXCHANGED WITH GHANA

LD231428 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 20 Mar 81 EA

[Excerpt] The president of the Union of Radio and Television Networks of Africa, Mr (?Ousu Prempeh), has said that Kenya is contributing positively to the development of broadcasting in Africa.

The president said this today when he paid a courtesy call on the permanent secretary in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Mr Wairagu. He said it was the wish of African heads of state to see more African programs screened on their television networks. Mr (?Prempeh) disclosed that from tomorrow Kenyan television viewers will be able to see Ghanaian films on their televisions weekly and Kenya has also sent six films to be screened by the Ghana Broadcasting Corporation. He said the union has completed studies on the type of equipment needed for the exchange of program (?facilities) and needed for the news exchange by satellite among the 39 member countries. He appealed to the Voice of Kenya to evaluate the Ghanaian programs in order to know what kind of programs Kenyan viewers are interested in.

Mr Wairagu assured the president that his ministry will do everything possible to see that the union's programs succeeded and were radiated to all parts of Africa.

SOMALIA

FREEDOM FIGHTERS CLASH WITH ETHIOPIAN TROOPS

LD211755 (Clandestine) Voice of Western Somali and Abo Liberation Fronts in Somali to Western Somalia 0930 GMT 21 Mar 81 EA

[Text] Sixteen enemy Abyssinian black colonialist soldiers were killed and many others wounded while they were engaged in a fierce clash with the heroic Western Somali Liberation Front freedom fighters at (Garba Dubiye) last week. The freedom fighters lost one martyr and had two others wounded in the fighting. According to reports, although the fighting was the result of an attack by the Abyssinian black colonialist soldiers, the freedom fighters gave a good account of themselves by inflicting serious losses on the enemy.

TANZANIA

GOVERNMENT REITERATES CALL FOR FUEL CONSERVATION

LD241530 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1300 GMT 24 Mar 81 EA

[Text] Dar es Salaam--The government has reiterated its call to the people to use fuel very sparingly as an aid to conserving energy at a time when Tanzania is facing a bad economic situation.

The call was made by a spokesman of the Ministry of Water and Energy in Dar es Salaam today, speaking to Radio Tanzania on a meeting of the National Committee on Energy which is being held in Dar es Salaam to consider how private car owners, tourist vehicles and taxi owners can help in conserving oil in the country.

The spokesman urged corporations, ministries and government departments to consider the specified allowances of fuel announced in Government Circular No 2 of 1979. He reiterated that special permits to purchase fuel on days when it is not on sale have been completely abolished. Regarding other ordinary consumers, the spokesman said that they will be allowed to buy fuel 3 days a week, that is, beginning on Mondays through Wednesdays, and he similarly called on them to use sparingly the fuel they will be buying on the specified days.

He said that his ministry will contact the City Council of Dar es Salaam and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to set aside a gas station where diplomats will be able to buy fuel on days when fuel will not be on sale.

Last week the government announced new measures aimed at reducing the use of fuel in the country which include sale on only 3 days a week, from Mondays through Wednesdays, in effect from yesterday.

The spokesman explained that the National Committee on Energy which was set up to supervise the distribution of fuel in the country and to find ways to enable the people to understand the poor fuel situation facing Tanzania will continue its session tomorrow.

UGANDA

AFP REPORTS EXPLOSIONS, BLACKOUT IN KAMPALA

AB251249 Paris AFP in English 1247 GMT 25 Mar 81

[Text] Nairobi, 25 Mar (AFP)--The Uganda capital, Kampala, was blacked out early today after a series of explosions rocked the city during the night.

Early today gunmen opened fire from a moving Landrover on the city centre offices of the ruling Uganda Peoples Congress (UPC) of President Milton Obote.

All telephone and Telex communications were cut after the blackout, which started at 2300 local time (2000 GMT) Tuesday night, and radio Uganda was off the air.

Officials of the Uganda Electricity Board speaking in Kampala said the blackout was caused by explosions which blew up a transmitter 12 miles (16 kms) outside the capital at a village on the main road to Jinja and Kenya. The dam over the Nile at Jinja is a main source of the country's electricity supply.

Eyewitnesses to today's shooting said that the gunmen wore civilian clothes when the attack took place at 9:00 a.m. (0600 GMT) at the peak of the morning rush hour. There were no reports of casualties.

In a statement distributed in Nairobi yesterday, underground opposition leader Yowere Museveni, a defence minister in the first government after the 1979 overthrow of Idi Amin, warned that his Movement for the Struggle of the Peoples Rights (MOSPOR) would fight on until Obote is overthrown by force unless he organised new elections.

Mr Moseveni, whose own political party, the Uganda Patriotic Movement (UPM), was given only one seat after last December's general elections, has claimed that the voting was fixed and that the main parliamentary opposition party, the Democratic Party (DP) was the real winner.

The Moseveni guerrilla force, which is believed to be several thousand strong, has claimed responsibility for several attacks on military targets in the past few eeeks.

The Obote government has carried out a large number of arrests and banned four opposition newspapers during this month.

ARMY OFFICIALS DISCUSS SECURITY PROBLEMS

LD241102 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 23 Mar 81 EA

[Excerpt] The army chief of staff has said that insecurity in and around Kampala will never be put under control unless the general public cooperates with the security personnel and the police. Addressing all UPC [Uganda Peoples' Congress] branch chairmen from Kampala district at the International Conference Center, the army chief of staff, Brig Oyite Ojok, asked them to report all lawless elements in their areas.

Speaking at the same occasion, the acting inspector general of police, Mr Okoth Ogola, urged them to (?swiftly) report criminals so as to ensure that the role of law (?speaks).

The commander of the 15th battalion, Lt Col Bazilio Olara Okelo, reminded the gathering of the sinister aims of the (?wrong) elements causing insecurity in the country. Later the branch chairmen briefed the army chief of staff about the situation in their areas and gave suggestions on how insecurity can be eliminated.

NAIROBI REPORTS ARMY CONFIRMATION OF AMBUSH DEATHS

LD202124 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 20 Mar 81 EA

[Text] Uganda's army chief of staff, Brig Oyite Okok, has confirmed that an unspecified number of soldiers and civilians were killed in an ambush 7 miles north of Kampala earlier this week. He said the attackers were armed thugs and expressed surprise that local residents in the area had not bothered to report the killings to the police. Brigadier Ojok did not give any casualty figures for the Monday night shooting, the most serious incident involving antigovernment guerrillas since a wave of attacks on police stations and army barracks 5 weeks ago. Government troops of the Uganda National Liberation Army searched the area after the ambush but residents afterwards claimed that there was looting by the soldiers.

OBOTE RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM FRG'S GENSCHER

LD201650 Kampala Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 20 Mar 81 EA

[Text] President Obote has received a message from the West German foreign minister, Dr Dietrich Genscher, assuring him of West Germany's wish to strengthen the existing relations between the two countries. The message was delivered to the president by the director of African affairs in the West German Foreign Office, Ambassador (Wilhelm) Hans.

Dr Genscher also briefed President Obote, in his capacity as Uganda's minister of foreign affairs, on West German policy in Africa. Ambassador (Wilhelm) Hans was accompanied by a West German ambassador to Uganda, Mr Rolf Enders.

Later Mr Hans met the prime minister, Mr Otema Alimadi, who said the UPC government encourages private investments from foreign companies in the economy of Uganda. He hoped that the West German Government will encourage German firms to come out and participate in the economic activities of the country.

CAMEROON

YAOUNDE DECRIES POSSIBLE U.S. AID TO UNITA, FNLA

AB210705 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1830 GMT 20 Mar 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] It has never been easy for any black African government to deal with the American Republican Party, be it a Republican Party in office or in the opposition. It is also true to observe that none or few Republican administrations for a long, long time have had any sympathy for or with the black cause, even in that country. The reason is simple. The Republican Party is in a large measure racist.

If this was all we had against the Republican Party we would not care a fig what it thinks of us; but it does not only think badly of us, it also tells us things that break our backs each time it has the opportunity. That is why we took seriously former President Carter's warning to Americans against electing the 70-year-old conservative Ronald Reagan. That is why all of black Africa today bemoans the defeat of Jimmy Carter and the unfortunate accession to the American presidency of the former film star, Ronald Reagan.

And it is not for nothing that we feel bad. When Ronald Reagan replaced human rights with international terrorism as his administration's number one policy priority, there was something ominous about it, especially in a world where words have increasingly been made to become more ambiguous, so much so in fact that it is almost impossible now to obtain a truly acceptable definition of a word, for instance terrorism.

So when President Reagan's secretary of state, Alexander Haig, goes to ask Congress to life the American ban on the supply of arms to the rebel groups, UNITA and FNLA, opposed to the Angolan Government, it becomes not only disturbing but extremely disquieting, and we begin to ask who, then, is the terrorist. Is it not the United States, which decided to arm rebel groups trying to subvert a legitimate constituted government, that is the terrorist itself. This is what is about to happen in Angola. The U.S. Government making up its mind to arm UNITA and FNLA, which are terrorist groups, means in fact that Africa is dealing with an American regime that is deliberately ambigious about its policies or at best cynically contradictory, especially on Africa.

It is basic to understand that the American Democratic Party and the Republican Party are not one and the same thing, but at the same time they are not diametrically opposed on any issue, as one would have to say of the French Communist Party and the Gaullists.

What distinguishes the Democrats from the Republicans, in our opinion, is essentially the question of emphasis on one issue or another. But they fundamentally pursue the same goals. it becomes astonishingly contradictory then for Mr Reagan now to want Congress to repeal a law banning American arms supplies to defeated terrorist groups such as UNITA and FNLA in Angola only because the Angolan Government is, in American eyes, Marxist and has Cuban technicians and engineers and military instructors instead of perhaps Americans.

It would appear greedy on the part of the Republican regime of Ronald Reagan, because in Angola American companies are taking out the oil which is even more profitable to the American economy. Did not a one-time American ambassador to the United Nations, Mr Andrew Young, approve of Cuban trainers in Angola, rightly describing the Cuban role as stabilizing the [word indistinct].

It has been proven throughout history that you cannot reap the fruits of freedom with weapons of death or subject a people to [words indistinct] for themselves, with themselves, to themselves and by themselves through the barrel of the gun. It is certain that even if Congress were to repeal the ban, the people of Angola, with their empty hands, like the Vietnamese, will triumph over UNITA and FNLA using American automatic weapons and neutron bombs.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

CANDIDATE PEHOUA CITES IRREGULARITIES IN ELECTIONS

French Interference Charge

AB241601 Paris AFP in French 1135 GMT 24 Mar 81

[Text] Bangui, 24 Mar (AFP)--In a statement made to some French journalists on Tuesday morning, Mr Francois Pehoua, the defeated independent candidate in the CAR presidential election, accused the French head of state, Mr Giscard d'Estaing, of having wanted to impose President Dacko.

Mr Pehoua, who obtained 5.33 percent of the votes cast on 15 March, also accused the French intervention force (with 600 soldiers in Bangui and 800 at Bouar) of having intervened directly in the election campaign by exerting pressure on the voters. The independent candidate said the French forces accomplished their role by driving away Bokassa and that their presence in Bangui can no longer be justified. On the other hand, he said he is in favor of the maintenance of the French contingents on our borders (at Bouar) and of their participation in the training of our national army.

Mr Pehoua finally declared that despite some disastrous errors of understanding resulting in anti-French popular deminstrations, we are perfectly aware of the nature of our very close relations with France. As far as I am concerned, he concluded, I affirm that I have nothing against France.

Remarks to French Journalists

AB242058 Paris AFP in French 1551 GMT 24 Mar 81

[Text] Bangui, 24 Mar (AFP)--An independent candidate, one of Mr David Dacko's losing opponents, received French journalists in Bangui on Tuesday morning. On this occasion, he told the newsmen that the Central African opposition parties are getting ready to appeal to the Supreme Court for the cancellation of the 15 March presidential elections.

He said: The document that we have written is the last resource against all sorts of irregularities that marked the election. Such irregularities range from the issuing of voter's cards to the counting of votes and the validation of the results. According to Mr Pehoua, these malpractices are a discredit to our country. He added that he was disappointed that they were condoned at the highest level.

Mr Pehoua believes that if the appeal is turned down, the opposition's next target will be the upcoming parliamentary elections due to take place on schedule, that is, before June.

Mr Pehoua has also expressed his intention to set up an independent study group that will address itself to political, economic, social and cultural issues. He said that it will not be a political party. Every party will be welcomed, both the opposition and Mr David Dacko's ruling Central African Democratic Union. The group will be a meeting point for all those who want to find a peaceful solution to the problems facing the country. He also said he favors any honorable compromise likely to lead to the rebirth of the country.

Mr Pehoua stated that last Friday's demonstrations were caused by a feeling of frustration and that they could not be blamed on any political party. He said: I do not feel myself responsible, whether directly or indirectly. The independent leader also stated that these events claimed far more than the two dead that have been announced.

Lastly, Mr Pehoua announced his intention to return to Yaounde where he is working as the director of the Bank of the Central African States. He will do so within 2 or 3 weeks, after launching the independent reflection group.

CHAD

UN MISSION EXAMINES AREAS OF POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE

AB201624 Paris AFP in French 1202 GMT 20 Mar 81

[Text] Ndjamena, 18 Mar (AFP)--A UN mission was in Chad for 1 week to examine the possible areas in which the international organization might assist that country. These areas include communications, education, health and food assistance in particular.

An agreement was reached over rapid assistance in the sector of communication. Within 2 to 3 months, the UN may grant assistance worth $5 to $6 million used to set up mobile installations that will make it possible for communications to be established between Ndjamena and foreign countries. The United Nations might also decided to send a 3,000 kilowatts generator that would supply the capital Ndjamena with water and electricity.

Financial assistance worth $1 million should be granted with a view to improving medical care at Ndjamena hospitals. Drugs worth $5 million will also be granted to Chad.

In addition to this, the UN experts have agreed on the principle of 12,600 tons of wheat for food assistance. The United Nations will also provide 500 tons of seeds to the country during its next agricultural season.

Informed sources in Ndjamena observe that all these measures cannot yet be considered final. As a matter of fact their implementation will depend on the decision of the UN secretary general after the examination of the mission's report. All will depend on the development in the situation in Chad. Before they left Ndjamena, the members of the mission went to Massaguet, north of the capital and to Bongor, 250 km to the south in order to assess for themselves whether peace actually prevailed in the country. In a statement made in Ndjamena, the head of the delegation, Mr Akund, stated that all UN member countries support rapid implementation of the resolutions in favor of Chad passed at the last UN General Assembly.

ZAIRE

REDUCTION OF OVERSEAS DIPLOMATIC CORPS PLANNED

AB211454 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 21 Mar 81

[Excerpt] The weekly meeting of the Executive Council was held yesterday as scheduled on the MS Kamanyola boat under the chairmanship of the head of state, Citizen Mobutu Sese Seko.

The council heard a report from the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation on the decision taken last Friday to minimize the number of diplomats abroad. Out of 301 diplomats abroad, the council decided to recall 101 of them home. The country will henceforth be represented abroad by a total of 200 diplomats. The council approved the plan for reducing the number of diplomats abroad as proposed by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. The council began sitting at 1000 and the MS Kamanyola returned to the Nganyuma Bay at 1630.

JOINT FRENCH COMMISSION MEETING RESULTS NOTED

AE221131 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1225 GMT 21 Mar 81

[Text] Kinshasa, 20 Mar (AZAP)--The activities of the sixth Franco-Zairian joint commission which took place in Paris from 16 to 18 March were a great success in that they made it possible to envisage for the upcoming months levels of financing and manpower never before reached in French technical assistance to Zaire. This is stated in a joint communique published at the end of these activities. The credits corresponding to these operations represent a total of close to 400 million French francs in subsidies or loans, the communique continues. The two parties signed eight financial agreements amounting to 16.6 million French francs in the form of subsidies for the immediate future. These agreements include:

--a truck and fish farming project in the region of Kinshasa: 3,150,000 French francs;

--participation in the development of stockbreeding in Ituri (third installment): 3 million French Francs;

--the synthesis of the mining inventory over 10 years of activity: 1.5 million French francs;

--the continuation of activities of the mining mission (17th year): 2,030,000 French francs;

--technical assistance to the Office of Roads-Research Center (third installment) 1.5 million French francs;

--support to the in-service training center for development techniques: 2 million French francs;

--technical and teaching assistance for Radio Zaire (fifth installment): 2.4 million French francs;

--subsidy to the Franco-Zairian alliance in Kinshasa: 1 million French francs.

In the field of trade, the two parties decieed to continue the intensification and diversification program already started, thanks to orientation and stimulatory activities that the two countries will put into effect.

The next meeting of the Franco-Zairian joint commission will take place in Kinshasa in 1982.

The Zairian delegation to these sessions was led by the deputy first state commissioner for foreign affairs and international cooperation, Citizen Bomboko Lokumba, while Mr Robert Galley, French minister for cooperation, headed the French party.

GHANA

DAILIES DISCUSS ANTI-IVORIAN STUDENT PROTESTS

AB242133 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 24 Mar 81

[Press review]

[Text] The university students' demonstration over the murder of 46 Ghanaians in the Ivory Coast is discussed in the editorials of the GHANAIAN TIMES and the DAILY GRAPHIC.

The TIMES says that the demonstration means that governments in the ECOWAS organization should begin to show good faith in the organization's fundamental social and political principles. The possibility for the success of ECOWAS, it says, lies with the attitudes of the governments of its member countries. The paper notes that owing to the Nigerian Government's farsighted approach to the problem of illegal immigrants, Nigerian officials, who might have been disposed to molesting Ghanaians, have caused less trouble. And in Ghana, thanks to the government's longsighted view of African relations, public reactions to the cruelties being meted out to Ghanaians in neighboring countries have been restrained.

The TIMES says: If the students had not felt snubbed by the failure of the Ivory Coast Embassy officials to receive their petition, the demonstration could have ended without the attacks on embassy property. It says Ghana will not lose just because Ghanaians take retaliatory actions against maltreatment of their brothers in sister countries. The paper points out that the tragedy of the anti-Ghanaian feeling is that it can only destroy the foundation being laid for advancing the African cause. One must, therefore, hope that other African states will see the problem the way Ghana sees it.

The DAILY GRAPHIC says, from all indications, the Ivorian Government is not in any mood to discuss the matter with the Ghana Government in order to avoid a repetition. For this reason, the Ghana Government must, on its own, take steps to avoid giving others the chance to treat its nationals this way. The GRAPHIC believes that the situation has been largely prompted by the difficulties encountered by Ghanaians in acquiring passports. A number of young persons who want to seek their fortunes elsewhere have left the country without the necessary documents and therefore expose themselves to such dangers.

IVORY COAST

LAWMAKER TO ASSUME CHAIR OF PARLIAMENTARY UNION

AB241630 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 24 Mar 81

[Excerpts] The extraordinary meeting of the Union of African Parliaments, UAP, ended today at the National Assembly in Abidjan. The speaker of the Ivorian National Assembly, Mr Henri Konan Bedie, has been asked to assume the chairmanship of the union until its general assembly in March 1982. Mali and Zimbabwe have been admitted as members of the UAP.

It was also proposed that the former UAP chairman, Mr Philippe Yace, should be made honorary member of the union.

LIBERIA

GEOLOGISTS ARRESTED ON URANIUM SMUGGLING CHARGE

AB201938 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1900 GMT 20 Mar 81

[Text] Two American geologists have been arrested by immigration authorities for attempting to smuggle samples of uranium out of the country. The two geologists, Larry (Meeker), and Tom Watson, employees of the (Crew) Mining Company in the United States, were arrested yesterday at Roberts International Airport when they were about to board a plane with their 100 concealed envelopes of the material.

At a meeting today with Lands and Mines Ministry officials, the cochairman and vice head of state, Maj Gen Thomas Weh a syen, described the action of the two U.S. geologists as a gross violation of the agreement signed between the Liberian Government and the U.S. company for the exploration of uranium deposits in Liberia.

Deputy Ministers Joseph D. Richards and William A. Freeman from the Lands and Mines Ministry, told Gen Wehasyen that the two geologists did not apply for official permission from the ministry to export the uranium samples from Liberia. The vice head of state then urged all joint security officers in Liberia to insure maximum security and protection at the ports of entry in the country.

DECREE ESTABLISHES COURT FOR DRUG TRAFFICKERS

AB240927 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0625 GMT 24 Mar 81

[Text] The People's Redemption Council, PRC, yesterday issued a new decree, No 38, establishing a people's special court on theft, related offenses and traffic of drugs.

According to the decree, announced by the justice minister, Chea Cheapoo, the court will be composed of three judges to be appointed by the head of state. One of them will serve as chief judge. The decree further states that the court will have a legal administration over illegal trafficking of drugs and cases involving thefts and other related offenses.

The decree stated that persons convicted by the special court will not have the opportunity to take an appeal to any higher court in the country. It also said people found guilty of thefts and other related crimes will be imprisoned for not less than 5 to 7 years and the restitution of stolen property while those found guilty of illegal drug trafficking will be imprisoned for 7 years.

MALI

GHANAIAN PRESIDENT ARRIVES FOR OFFICIAL VISIT

AB232008 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 23 Mar 81

[Text] Dr Hilla Limann, president of the Republic of Ghana, arrived this morning in our country to begin a 3-day official visit. A 21-gun salute greeted the Ghanaian president, who was welcomed by President Moussa Traore and representatives of various institutions, including diplomats. Dr Limann explains to Oumar Sangare the reason for his official visit to our country:

[Begin recording] Ghana and Mali are not two different countries; they are the same country. So if we move from one part of the country to the other, there should not be any specific reason. I have planned to come here for a long time, but has been very difficult for my brother and me to agree on a date on which both of us would be free. That is why I have delayed this visit. The reason for my visit is simply to come and see my brother and other Malian brothers.

[Question] Mr President, Ghana and Mali are both known for their pan-Africanism. Presently, many things have shown that cooperation among African states has been very weak, on the regional, subregional and continental level. Furthermore, there are other burning problems among various countries. What solutions do you have for these burning problems?

[Answer] Ghana, Guinea and Mali adopted an old proposal in the 1950's and 1960's--the unity, friendship and fraternity of African countries. These proposals advanced by Ghana, Guinea and Mali were rejected but were later to be adopted under a different guise. For example, the ECOWAS and the OAU itself have been accepted now. We strongly support these organizations which can unite us, because in unity we can muster enough strength to cope with all these problems which divide us and weaken us and against which we are fighting.

[Question] Mr President, let us now talk about problems of Ghana. Ghana has experienced many changes between 1957 and 1979. And like all African countries, Ghana continues to experience economic difficulties. International opinion is that the economic problems facing Ghana now came as a result of the numerous changes which have occurred in the country. Could you explain this (?speculation)?

[Answer] It is true that numerous changes have caused the difficulties we are experiencing now. But changes in themselves are not bad because they are part of the process of growth. Without change there will be no growth; when you were born, you were small but now you have grown: That is also change. Every country has its problems and we should not exaggerate by saying that Ghana is the only country which has problems. I know many countries which have more serious problems than Ghana. We are making a great effort to solve our problems. As I was saying, if from the beginning Ghana had gone the way it wanted, the way Mali wanted and the way Guinea wanted, there would not have been these problems. When we had the means at the time, we shared it with everybody. Now, there are people who think they are rich, stable and who are not at all humane. Prosperity without human feeling is nothing.

[Question] One last question, Mr President. Africa is presently experiencing many problems, including the Western Sahara, the Chadian conflict and foreign interventions. Mr President, could you tell us Ghana's stand on these problems?

[Answer] Ghana's stand has never changed; self-determination has always been the (?policy) we have pursued. Self-determination, in our opinion, is the only policy which would be acceptable for solving these problems. [end recording]

A little after his arrival, Dr Hilla Limann had discussions with Gen Moussa Traore. This afternoon, beginning at 1630, Ghanaian ministers and their Malian counterparts will hold talks on their bilateral relations. Tomorrow, Dr Limann and Gen Moussa Traore will fly to Mopti where they will be received at 1000. They will visit the fishing and rice cultivation operations there.

COMMUNIQUE ON JOINT GHANA COMMISSION MEETING

AB241635 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 23 Mar 81

[Communique issued at the end of the sixth session of the Ghanaian-Malian joint commission in Bamako on 23 March]

[Text] The sixth session of the Ghanaian-Malian joint commission took place at the Hotel de l'Amitie in Bamako from 19 to 23 March 1981. The Ghanaian delegation was headed by the foreign minister, His Excellency Dr Chinebuah, while the Malian delegation was led by the minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, His Excellency Mr Alioune Blondin Beye.

During the meeting, the two delegations reviewed the various fields of cooperation between both countries and discussed future prospects. Concerning the results achieved, the two parties noted with satisfaction the efforts made to establish the legal instruments of cooperation but viewed with concern the considerable decrease of the volume of trade between the two countries. It was therefore decided that in the future, emphasis will be placed on trade promotion as well as cooperation in the fields of mineral exploration, water supply, transportation, tourism and cultural and social activities.

At the end of the session, the two delegation leaders expressed happiness over the fraternal and friendly atmosphere which prevailed throughout the discussions. The head of the Ghanaian delegation, His Excellency Dr Chinebuah, expressed very sincere thanks to the Malian people and their party and government for the fraternal reception and the African hospitality accorded his delegation. The seventh session of the Ghanaian-Malian joint commission will take place in Accra in the Republic of Ghana in 1982 at a date to be fixed through the diplomatic channel.

NIGERIA

SHAGARI RETURNS FROM UK, VIEWS THATCHER TALKS

AB251016 Lagos International Service in English 0930 GMT 25 Mar 81

[Text] President Shehu Shagari is expected back home today after a state visit to the United Kingdom. During the tour, the president had talks with British officials on bilateral issues including ways of improving their trade imbalance. He also discussed with businessmen the need to invest in Nigeria.

In a special interview with the British Broadcasting Corporation, BBC, President Shagari explained that he was not opposed to criticism from any quarter as long as they were constructive. The president stated that there were more pressing national issues to attend to than engage in petty criticism which the majority of the people paid no heed to. He however said that his administration has responded to serious issues raised by critics and has accepted criticism whenever it went wrong. President Shagari pointed out that he has been taken to court on a number of occasions and this, he said, was quite appropriate because the courts were independent and will always tell the truth.

Commenting on his talks with the British prime minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, on sanctions against the apartheid regime in South Africa, the president said that there were areas of disagreement, especially in actions to be taken against the racist regime. It was his belief that the only way to eradicate apartheid was to impose sanctions against the enclave.

NEW NIGERIAN Comment

AB251022 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 25 Mar 81

[Press review]

[Excerpt] The NEW NIGERIAN appraises President Shehu Shagari's state visit to Britain. The paper observes that the president has been able to drive home a number of important issues to the British Government. These, according to the paper, include trade imbalance between the two countries and Nigeria's stand against apartheid. The NEW NIGERIAN contends that Britain might not make much impact on these issues since the Reagan administration is bent on dictating the terms of global issues. The paper also feels that it is left to Nigeria to remedy her trade deficit with Britain.

SENEGAL

OPPOSITION PARTY DEPUTY SUBMITS RESIGNATION

AB231220 Paris AFP in French 1118 GMT 23 Mar 81

[Text] Dakar, 23 Mar (AFP)--In a letter addressed to the speaker of the National Assembly, a deputy of the Senegalese Democratic Party (PDS), Mr Pape Damba Diallo, has announced his resignation from that opposition party's parliamentary group. This resignation reduces to 14 the number of PDS deputies in the National Assembly and at the same time brings into question the recognition of this parliamentary group. In fact, according to the assembly's internal regulations, a parliamentary group must have at least 15 members to be accorded administrative recognition.

Mr Diallo did not give any reason for his resignation. However, contrary to the three other deputies who had earlier resigned from the PDS, he has not joined the Socialist Party and therefore remains independent.

After the 1978 elections, the PDS had 18 deputies in the National Assembly against 82 for the Socialist Party. Three of its deputies have joined the ruling Socialist Party since then.

TOGO

ECOWAS DEFENSE COMMISSION BEGINS MEETING IN LOME

AB240751 Lome Domestic Service in French 0615 GMT 24 Mar 81

[Text] The special ministerial defense commission of the Economic Community of West African States, ECOWAS, began meeting yesterday in Lome to examine the organization's draft agreement on mutual assistance in the field of defense. The meeting, which will last 3 days, is being attended by the defense ministers and armed forces' chiefs of staff of the ECOWAS member states.

The meeting was declared open by Mr Akakpo-Ahianyo, member of the Political Bureau of the Togolese People's Rally and minister of foreign affairs and cooperation. In his welcoming speech, Mr Akakpo-Ahianyo stated that the main objective of the agreement on mutual assistance in the field of defense--which will be submitted to the ECOWAS summit conference to be held in Freetown in May--is to ensure that our states are prepared to give mutual assistance to one another in the event of threats of armed aggression or any armed aggression and to unite to defend their common interests. Mr Akakpo-Ahianyo called on the delegates to carefully study the draft agreement and hoped that they will rapidly reach a consensus so that the agreement may be finally adopted.

It will be recalled that in the draft agreement, the ECOWAS members state that all foreign threats of armed aggression or any armed aggression against any member country constitutes a threat of aggression or an aggression against the entire community.

PRESIDENT EYADEMA RECEIVES MAURITANIAN ENVOY

AB240658 Lome Domestic Service in French 0615 GMT 24 Mar 81

[Text] President Eyadema yesterday received Lt Col Amadou Dia, minister-Counselor in the presidency of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, member of the Military Committee for National Salvation and director general of the gendarmerie.

Lieutenant Colonel Dia later told the press that he delivered a message from Mauritanian President Lt Col Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala to Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema. He said the message concerns the friendly and brotherly relations existing between our two states and particularly between our presidents.

According to Lt Col Amadou Dia, the message also contains some information about the recent events in Nouakchott. After reading the message, President Eyadema expressed his encouragement and moral support for the Mauritanian authorities and people following the recent aggression against Mauritania. The situation is now calm in the country, said Mr Amadou in answer to a question; the commando has been defeated.

ANGOLA

TALKS, ACCORD WITH CUBA ON CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

FL241413 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1402 GMT 24 Mar 81

[Text] Delegations of the Cuban enterprise for construction work overseas and of the Angolan Ministry of Construction today opened talks in Luanda for a short-term bilateral cooperation protocol. Levi Farah, Cuban minister in charge of construction overseas, and Manuel Mangueira, Angolan Minister of construction, head the delegations which also will examine the possibilities of establishing a joint enterprise of prefabricated [housing elements].

Farah arrived in the Angolan capital on 20 March accompanied by Cuban Ambassador Rafael Francia Mestre and other Cuban officials. He has visited the provinces of Luanda Sul, Moxico and Huambo. During its tour of Angola, the Cuban delegation has met with the various provincial commissars and with the groups of Cuban workers that are offering technical assistance to various projects in the regions visited.

BRAZILIAN MINISTER SIGNS COOPERATION ACCORD

Remarks on South Africa

PY241649 Porto Alegre Radio Gaucha in Portuguese 1545 GMT 24 Mar 81

[Text] Luanda--Brazilian Mines and Energy Minister Cesar Cals yesterday strongly condemned the South African aggressions against Angola. Speaking at the opening of the talks between the Angolan and Brazilian delegations, Cals expressed the Brazilian Government's solidarity with and support of the Angolan nation. For his part, the Angolan petroleum minister announced the decision to increase Brazilian participation in petroleum prospecting activities in Angola as of June.

Program Details

PY250016 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 24 Mar 81

[Text] Brazil and Angola will carry out cooperation programs in the areas of geology and mineral research. This was agreed upon today in Luanda with the signing of the cooperation agreement between Mines and Energy Minister Cesar Cals and Angolan Petroleum Minister Jorge Augusto de Morais.

The agreement provides for the training of personnel, services on basic geology and laboratory support to research on Angolan mineral deposits.

Another significant fact of Minister Cals' visit to Angola has been the concession for a new portion of the Angolan continental shelf to be explored by Petrobras [Brazilian petroleum corporation] through its subsidiary overseas Braspetro [Petrobras International Inc].

Angolan Petroleum Minister de Morais also accepted the invitation extended by Minister Cals to visit Brazil to learn about Petrobras' structure and the alternative energy program.

The Brazilian mines and energy minister will return today from Luanda. In Angola Cals visited the Cabinda and (Soyo) petroleum fields, where Braspetro is operating. He also visited the central petroleum school in (Miguanza) and the local [word indistinct].

PRESS RELEASE CITED ON 1980 FIGHTING WITH PRETORIA

LD241145 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 24 Mar 81 EA

[Text] A press release issued by our embassy in France has given a detailed account of the criminal actions perpetrated by the South Africans in the areas constantly attacked by them in Angola during the course of last year.

This note, signed by the Angolan ambassador in France, Luis de Almeida, stressed that the military operations carried out by the reactionary Pretoria regime against the People's Republic of Angola in 1980 showed a gradual increase of 69 percent over 1979.

In 1980 the South African racist troops carried out 931 reconnaissance flights, 58 air raids by bombing aircraft, 4 paratroop landings, 17 helicopter-borne troop landings, 8 artillery bombardments, 6 ground attacks, 18 reconnaissance incursions, 55 air attacks, and 3 kidnappings, the Angolan Embassy's press release in France stressed.

The press release also recalled the major operation launched last year by racist South Africa in Angola against the provinces of Cuando Cubango, Cunene and Huila, which resulted in the death of many civilians and soldiers. It also resulted in disappearances of a number of people, while scores of others were wounded. The operation also destroyed schools, hospitals and villages, cattle, farms and other property, all part of our economy.

The press release by the Angolan Embassy in Paris ended by announcing that as a result of these incursions into the People's Republic of Angola's sovereign territory, the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola, the Angolan People's armed wing, inflicted a number of human and material losses on the South African enemy. These included the destruction of two helicopters; three Mirage aircraft, and two MK-2 Impala aircraft.

MADAGASCAR

PRESIDENT LAUNCHES 'INTENSIVE PRODUCTION CAMPAIGN'

AB231111 Paris AFP in French 1021 GMT 23 Mar 81

[Text] Antananarivo, 23 Mar (AFP)--Malagasy head of state Didier Ratsiraka on Sunday launched the intensive production campaign being undertaken throughout the island by the Arema political group (the vanguard of the Malagasy revolution) on the occasion of its fifth anniversary. In Antananarivo, the operation began in Talata-Volonondry (25 km north of the capital with the planting of 6,000 young coffee trees by 30,000 Arema militants. Throughout the island, where this group has hundreds of thousands of members, other community production projects concerning export or food crops have also started.

In his speech, President Ratsiraka indicated that the launching of this campaign was due to the fact that Madagascar's export earnings amount to only 110 billion Malagasy francs (50 Malagasy francs equal 1 French franc) while its total imports amount to about 154 billion Malagasy francs according to an agreement recently signed with the International Monetary Fund. Mr Ratsiraka also announced measures aimed at palliating the effects of inflation.

In this connection, the prices of fuel are to be increased and the one-shift working system is to be adopted by all state services in order to reduce the expenditure on fuel. The salaries in the public and private sectors will be improved and the producer prices in the agricultural sector will be increased. The head of state indicated that details will be given later concerning these measures.

Mr Ratsiraka announced that the difficult period being experienced by the country will end in 1984 with the beginning of the exploitation of Madagascar's uranium and bituminous shale deposits and by which time socialism will have been established.

BRIEFS

NEW ENVOYS--Antananarivo, 16 Mar (AFP)--The Malagasy president, Mr Didier Ratsiraka, on Monday received the credentials of the new Belgian ambassador, Mr Victor Allard; the Guinea diplomatic representative, Mr Mami Koyate, and Mr Paul Blanc, the new French ambassador. [Paris AFP in French 1523 GMT 16 Mar 81 AB] Antananarivo, 17 Mar, (AFP)--Malagasy President Didier Ratsiraka on Tuesday received the credentials of Mr Karl Johansen, Mr Alexander Asendoulis, and Mr Mlikana Liswaniso, the new ambassadors from Canada, Greece and Zambia, respectively. [Paris AFP in French 1506 GMT 17 Mar 81 AB]

MOZAMBIQUE

FOREIGN MINISTER NOTES TOPICS FOR IBERIAN TALKS

LD231022 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 22 Mar 81 EA

[Text] The Mozambique chief of diplomacy said today that his visit to Portugal will provide the necessary impetus for a consolidation of cooperation between the two countries. Joaquim Chissano said this just before leaving for Europe, where he will pay official visits to Portugal and Spain. There is a willingness on both sides to strengthen cooperation in various spheres, the Mozambique minister pointed out. The chief of Mozambique diplomacy described his departure for the Iberian Peninsula as a political mission which will serve to advise various Mozambique Government departments on specific spheres of cooperation of great interest to both Mozambique and the two countries to be visited.

Replying to a question on East Timor, the foreign minister said this will certainly be one of the issues to be discussed with the Portuguese authorities among other questions of international interest.

On the new U.S. administration, Joaquim Chissano described the attitude of the Reagan administration toward southern Africa as being not very clear.

Commenting on the cut in U.S. aid to Mozambique, the chief of Mozambique diplomacy described it as part of the economic struggle against our country. This situation is not even new to us; in the past, for various reasons, the Carter administration had [words indistinct], Minister Chissano added.

Our country's foreign minister said that he considers the acts of aggression carried out by South Africa as unable to force a change in Mozambique's attitude toward [words indistinct].

SOUTH AFRICA

PREFERENTIAL TRADE AGREEMENT WITH ZIMBABWE TO END

LD251108 Johannesburg International Service in English 1700 GMT 24 Mar 81 CA

[Text] South Africa has notified Zimbabwe that it is to end the preferential trade agreement which it has with that country. This has been announced in Pretoria by the minister of industries, commerce and tourism, Dr Dawie de Villiers. Dr de Villiers said this meant that after a period of 12 months trade between South Africa and Zimbabwe will be conducted on the same basis as trade with any other country. He revealed that a South African delegation was at present engaged in discussions with Zimbabwe on trade relations and problems affecting trade between the two countries.

The preferential trade agreement between South Africa and Zimbabwe dates back to 1964, before the Rhodesian declaration of independence. It provides for the preferential treatment of a large number of Zimbabwean exports to South Africa as well as of a variety of South African exports to Zimbabwe. In accordance with provisions of this agreement, South Africa has given Zimbabwe notice of its termination.

ZIMBABWE

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED FOLLOWING STEVENS' VISIT

LD201431 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 19 Mar 81 CA

[Text] Zimbabwe and Sierra Leone have agreed to increase bilateral cooperation in the area of diplomatic relations, technical cooperation and manpower training. This has been announced in a joint communique issued by the visiting chairman of the Organization of African Unity and president of Sierra Leone, Dr Stevens, and the prime minister, Comrade Mugabe.

In the communique, the two leaders expressed their total support for the legitimate struggle being waged by the people of Namibia under what is described as the gallant, sole and authentic leadership of SWAPO. The two men condemned in particular the intransigence of the Pretoria racists which resulted in the failure of the Geneva preimplementation conference. Dr Stevens left Salisbury for Lusaka about 2 hours ago.

Further Details

AB210830 Freetown Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 20 Mar 81

[Text] President Siaka Stevens and Prime Minister Robert Mugabe last evening signed a communique at the end of the OAU chairman's visit to Zimbabwe. In the communique, the two leaders reviewed the current situation in southern Africa and expressed their total support for the legitimate struggle of the peoples of Namibia under the leadership of SWAPO. They condemned in particular the intransigence of the South African racist regime, which has resulted in the failure of the Geneva preimplementation conference. The two leaders noted with concern the importance displayed [as heard] by the so-called contact group in bringing pressure to bear on South Africa. They (?emphasized) the need for peace in the southern region and called upon the international community to exert maximum pressure on the apartheid situation.

Dr Stevens and Prime Minister Mugabe condemned Pretoria's aggression against frontline states and called upon the international community to support those states by extending their defensive capabilities.

Both sides noted with deep concern that the situation in southern Western Sahara still remains unresolved and called on the parties concerned to seek a solution of the conflict within the framework of the OAU.

On the issue of the proposed merger between Libya and Chad, the two leaders emphasized that such a merger could only be effected with the expressed mandate of the people of Chad. The two leaders agreed that the Lagos accord, reaffirmed by the Freetown resolution on Chad, remains the basis for solving the Chadian problem. The Zimbabwean leader commended the tireless efforts of the current OAU chairman in seeking a lasting solution to the Chadian crisis.

Both leaders expressed concern over the increasing refugee population in Africa and the present meager assistance from the international community to alleviate this problem. The communique also called for massive international commitment during the forthcoming pledging conference on African refugees to be held in Geneva.

The two leaders expressed satisfaction with the outcome of their discussions and agreed to increase bilateral cooperation between both countries.

RECONSTRUCTION CONFERENCE OPENS IN SALISBURY 23 MAR

Mugabe Opening Address

LD241130 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1614 GMT 23 Mar 81 CA

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Mugabe, today opened the Zimbabwe Conference on Reconstruction and Development in Salisbury. Welcoming the guests at the conference, Comrade Mugabe said their presence here bears witness to their understanding that Zimbabwe requires material assistance and that the assistance is beyond the capacity of any single donor to provide. The prime minister said that on the basis of a very careful assessment Zimbabwe needs an injection of resources worth 1,254-million Zimbabwean dollars to complete projects and proposals identified on the ZIMCORD agenda:

[Begin recording] We have estimated on the basis of very careful assessment that we do require an injection of resources of the order of 1,254-million Zimbabwean dollars to complete the projects and proposals identified on the ZIMCORD agenda. As detailed in the document before you entitled "Let Us Build Zimbabwe Together," these projects and proposals include the completion of the refugee and reconstruction programs, land settlement and rural and agricultural development, capital investment in training institutions and technical assistance. These are priority areas and bear directly on the imperative need to reform and restructure our economy for the benefit of all. The total cost of all projects listed under these headings is 1,254-million Zimbabwean dollars in the 3-year period that we envisage.

My colleagues in the appropriate ministries of government, and in particular the minister of economic planning development, will in the course of this conference describe in detail the various projects for which we seek external financial and technical support. Permit me, however, to touch very briefly on one central item, namely land settlement and rural development.

The situation in our rural areas in which over 5 million if not close on the 6 million of our people reside and eke out scarcely a bare subsistence is alarming and in some areas close to calamitous. As can be gleaned from the main ZIMCORD document that I have already referred to, these areas taken as a whole constituted in the Rhodesia of yesterday a sort of colony within a colony, neglected, exploited and underdeveloped. They thus to this day remain the other side, and at that the ugly side, of our so-called dual economy. We have within this economy a tale of two cities. In these areas acute overcrowding in respect of both human and livestock populations, accompanied by rapid ecological deterioration in conditions of low diffusion and development of technology, looms as a danger signal of the first magnitude. Low if not declining productivity is here the order of the day, with obvious consequences for incomes and living standards. Progress has in these areas been slow, largely due to the limited availability of funds from our own meager resources and from aid. The need to proceed rapidly in these areas cannot be over emphasized, for long-term investment in them is bound to yield the most social benefits.

As I have already indicated, Mr Chairman, the request for aid contained in the ZIMCORD document for envisaged projects is 1,254-million Zimbabwean dollars. Aid or other forms of material support is also required for national infrastructural development, the cost of which is estimated at 1,079-million Zimbabwean dollars over the 3-year period. Many of the projects in this category are essential for the success of projects in the three priority areas. They are mutually supportive. The only difference is that economic returns on national infrastructure projects are higher and therefore can be financed on a more commercial basis than the ZIMCORD projects.

It has been suggested that the amount of aid being requested by my government far exceeds the ability of the economy to absorb it. I cannot accept this argument. Over the last few months we have been in government we have demonstrated the vigor of our policies and our capacity to put resources to effective use. It is also beyond doubt that our absorptive capacity will increase over the 3-year period envisaged in the ZIMCORD program, as we get more experienced and especially as urgent reconstruction work is phased out. I must also emphasize that absorptive capacity is a function of good infrastructure, efficient administration and hard-headed planning and programming. This we have in abundance or have demonstrated our capacity to achieve.

As explained in the conference document, as many projects as possible will become part of an interim 3-year development plan to be published in July. The case for aid to Zimbabwe and the responsibility of the international community within the context of the Lancaster House settlement has been clearly and forcibly stated in the ZIMCORD document. [end recording]

Development Minister Speech

LD251116 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 24 Mar 81 CA

[Text] The minister of economic planning and development, Comrade Chidzero, has announced that the government would need $786,340,000 to resolve the country's most vital issue, the distribution of land.

Speaking at today's session of the ZIMCORD conference in Salisbury, Comrade Chidzero said that in the next 2 years the government hopes to buy up 2 million hectares of underutilized commercial farming land for redistribution to the peasant farming sector. He said 80 percent of the Zimbabwean population lives in the rural areas and earns less than 1 percent of the total of white-earned income. Comrade Chidzero said the sector had suffered far more than anyone else in the country during the liberation war. He said the nearly $800 million needed for development (?can) be spent on agriultural land, training programs and development infrastructure. He said huge tracts of land in the predominantly white-owned commercial farming area lay empty and unutilized and the government is unable to take steps of its own accord because of the legacy of past dispossession and constitutional obligations.

The minister said the task of restoring the rural areas to a level comparable with the rest of the country must be the cornerstone of prosperity in this country.

BRIEFS

ACTING TRADE MINISTER--The prime minister, Comrade Mugabe, has appointed the minister of economic planning, development, Comrade Chidzero, to act as minister of trade and commerce. Mr David Smith is vacating the trade and commerce portfolio because of ill health. [Text] [Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 20 Mar 81 LD/CA]